

UNLIREC Newsletter

The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) is mandated to support Latin American and Caribbean States in achieving and maintaining peace and security through disarmament.

Enhancing Firearms Forensic Ballistics Systems in the Caribbean

UNLIREC undertakes National and Sub-Regional Double Cast Training for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean States



26 June - 6 July: UNLIREC, together with ARQUEBUS Solutions Ltd, delivered two double cast training courses in Barbados to participants from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The first course was undertaken from 26 to 29 June on a national basis for firearms examiners and IBIS technicians; while the second capacity-building initiative targeted police armourers, police drug detectives and forensic technologists from 5 different Caribbean States from 3 to 6 July. The training provided was based on INTERPOL's Double Casting methodology.

Double casting increases the ability of national authorities to make connections between crime and crime scenes, nationally, regionally and internationally. The training sought to enhance capacity in the region to create microscopic replicas of projectiles and cartridge cases that can be peer reviewed and uploaded to an Automated Ballistics Identification Network, stored in an open case file or shared across jurisdictions for comparison without disturbing the chain of custody of the original evidence.

Double casting is a two step-process that requires a silicone mold to be made of a fired bullet or cartridge case; a resin cast is then created using this silicone mold. Ballistic projectiles are mounted in a secured cup or mold box before pouring the silicone to make the mold. The molds are then placed in a degassing chamber to remove air bubbles, taken out of the

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

chamber, and cured for 15 hours. The cured mold is then removed from the cup or box and the specimen extracted. Next, the silicone mold is filled with casting resin, pressurized in a pressure pot, removed and the cured resin cast demolded. The resin bullet and cartridge castings are then ready for ballistics imaging or microscope examination and comparison.

Equipment used in the training, as well as consumables to conduct further double casting of cartridge cases or projectiles, were handed over to the Government of Barbados for continued ballistics support to the Eastern Caribbean States. Double casting equipment will also be donated to each of the four States that participated in the training, to allow them to build capacity and make replicas of bullets and cartridge cases that can be shared across jurisdictions.

Double cast training forms part of UNLIREC's Caribbean Operational Forensic Ballistics Assistance Package, which is made possible thanks to the support of the US Department of State and the Government of Canada.

UNLIREC carries out Double Cast Training in Guyana

10-13 July: UNLIREC, together with ARQUEBUS Solutions Ltd, delivered double cast training to participants from Guyana in Georgetown. Participants included firearm examiners from the Guyana Police Force and Scientific Officers from the Guyana Forensic Science Laboratory. Training was based on INTERPOL's Double Casting methodology.



Equipment used in the training as well as consumables to conduct further, practical double casting of projectiles were handed over to the Government of Guyana.

This training forms part of UNLIREC's Caribbean Operational Forensic Ballistics Assistance Package, which is made possible thanks to the support of the US Department of State and the Government of Canada. This training was the sixth and final double cast training delivered by UNLIREC.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St.Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC and Central American States discuss importance of sharing ballistics evidence and information



21-24 August: UNLIREC, together with the government of the Dominican Republic, implemented activities in the country to intensify forensic ballistics capacities in the region. The first activity, carried out from 21 to 22 August, included technical assessments of the ballistics laboratories at the National Forensic Science Institute (INACIF) in Santiago de los Caballeros and Santo Domingo, as well as the Scientific Police ballistics laboratory. The results of which were discussed during a national roundtable held on 24 August, with government stakeholders.

The second activity, undertaken on 23 August, was a regional meeting aimed at representatives from Central America and the Dominican Republic to discuss opportunities for the sharing of information and ballistics evidence both within and among States. 21 officials from the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras participated in this roundtable. The exchange of ballistics information and evidence increases the capacity of authorities to make connections between crimes and crime scenes, nationally, regionally and internationally, and ultimately allows for a reduction in impunity in firearms-related cases. Representatives also benefited from a visit to the Ballistics and Biometric Laboratory of the National Arms System (LABBS) to observe best practices and discuss firearms registries.

These initiatives form part of UNLIREC's Caribbean Operational Forensic Ballistics Assistance Package, which is made possible thanks to the support of the US Department of State and the Government of Canada.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC carries out Shooting Incident Reconstruction training in Trinidad and Tobago



Participants observe bullet holes in sheet of metal at various angles

23-27 October: UNLIREC delivered its pilot Shooting Incident Reconstruction training for Caribbean States, in Trinidad and Tobago.

Participants included firearm examiners and crime scene investigators of the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre (TTFSC) and the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS).

The Caribbean region continues to face persistent levels of armed violence, illicit trafficking of firearms and ammunition, and impunity in firearms-related crimes. The increase of organized crime-related cases, sophisticated criminal networks and lack of trust in state institutions have made the general population less likely to come forward when witnessing firearms-related cases, thereby increasing the caseloads and responsibilities of firearm and tool mark examiners, crime scene officers and investigators. Strengthening countries' forensic ballistic investigative capabilities is essential to advancing the rule of law and to decreasing impunity in crimes carried out with firearms.

The shooting incident reconstruction course was designed for firearm and tool mark examiners, crime scene and other law enforcement personnel responsible for investigating or overseeing the investigation of shooting incidents. The course will assist national authorities to connect all the pieces of forensic evidence necessary for the reconstruction of shooting crime scenes, including: documenting physical evidence at shooting crime scenes; determining the flight path of projectiles; examining firearm discharge residue to estimate distance from the shooter to the victim/and or final target.

The Pilot Exercise is subject to review, modification and correction by national authorities and by UNLIREC where necessary. Thematic topics focused on health and safety in the forensic process, collecting and preserving evidence, diagramming the shooting scene, computer uses in shooting reconstruction, identifying bullet holes, determining bullet trajectory, exterior ballistics and bullet impacts and ricochet and sequence of fire, amongst others.

Equipment used in the training, resource material and reference targets with sample bullet holes were handed over to the Government of Trinidad and Tobago.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC refurbishes indoor shooting range at the Forensic Science Centre in Trinidad and Tobago



25-29 October: UNLIREC, in collaboration with the Trinidad and Tobago Forensics Science Centre and Energy Containment Concepts of England, completed the refurbishment of the Indoor Shooting Range at the Forensic Science Centre in Trinidad and Tobago

In 2016, UNLIREC conducted a technical assessment of the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre Forensic Ballistics Capabilities and identified future requirements of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. The findings of the assessment included a firing range that is currently in use and which should be refurbished, replacing, inter alia, back-stop curtains, air extraction unit filters and the acoustic damping foam. At the time, the shooting range had been extensively used since the 1980s and had never been refurbished, posing a health and safety concern.

UNLIREC engaged an internationally recognized leader in the installation of firearm ranges to supply materials and refurbish the existing facility. This included new acoustic surfacing panels designed to reduce and absorb reflected sound on the perimeter walls, non-skid anti-ricochet rubber mats on the floor, anti-ricochet ballistic tiles to slow the speed of fired projectiles on the walls and new backstop curtains and lamellas capable of withstanding up to 5,000 shots before replacement and control bullet debris.

The refurbishment project and the new facility will significantly reduce health and safety concerns, boost the morale and efficiency of the forensic firearms examiners, and improve the Forensic Science Centre's forensic ballistic capacity.

The refurbishment of the indoor shooting range at the forensic science centre is one of a range of activities provided to Trinidad and Tobago under the Operational Forensic Ballistic assistance package sponsored by Canada and the US. Other assistance to Trinidad and Tobago included a shooting incident reconstruction course, equipment and training in the creation of

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

double casts of bullets and cartridge cases, provision of forensic ballistic Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and the development of collaborative exercises to prepare firearm examiners for proficiency testing. In addition, in 2018, UNLIREC will, in collaboration with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, deliver a specialized Evidence Management Course to various national authorities.

UNLIREC carries out Executive Seminar and Shooting Incident Reconstruction training in Jamaica

6-10 November: UNLIREC conducted an Executive Seminar for executives of institutional clients of Forensic Ballistics on 6 November, as well as a pilot shooting incident reconstruction training for ballistic experts of the Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine in Kingston, Jamaica.



Participants document sequence of the bullet holes on windscreen.

The Executive Seminar - with senior leadership of the Ministry of National Security - discussed the recommendations made in UNLIREC's 2015 national assessment of Jamaica's forensic ballistics capabilities. The seminar also reviewed the recommendations that have been implemented to date, as well as areas for future assistance.

The pilot exercise, similar to the one carried out in Trinidad and Tobago in October, is subject to review, modification and correction by national authorities and by UNLIREC where necessary. Equipment used in the training, resource material and reference targets with sample bullet holes were handed over to the Government of Jamaica.

UNLIREC implements Firearms and Ammunition Evidence Management Courses in Belize, The Bahamas and the Dominican Republic



13-16/28-30 November and 5-7 December: UNLIREC, together with the governments of the three beneficiary countries, delivered national versions of its inter-institutional Firearms and Ammunition Evidence Management Course (EMC) to national justice and law enforcement participants, including firearms examiners, forensic laboratory personnel, scenes of crimes and intelligence police officers, and public prosecutors, respectively.

Harmonized efforts are fundamental in developing a sound national strategy to investigate and prosecute firearms-related cases and illicit trafficking in firearms and ammunition.

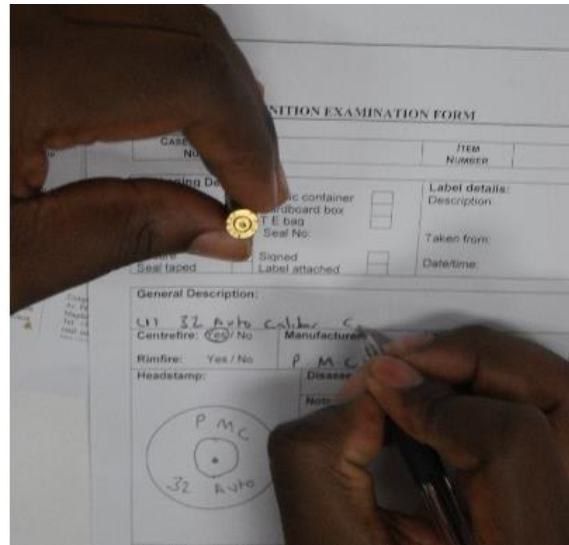
Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
http://www.unlirec.org

Moreover, training on best practices for collecting, packaging, and transferring firearms and ammunition found at a scene under investigation increases the capacity of security sector officials to manage potential evidence in a way that is deemed admissible in a court of law, and ultimately allows for a reduction in impunity in firearms-related cases. Consequently, UNLIREC convened this initiative to strengthen coordination among security sector officials, share knowledge on key aspects of the chain of custody process, provide practical training on best practices to manage a scene under investigation, and increase the knowledge base of the relevant legal framework.

The EMC was led by international subject matter experts and contained training modules on ‘Firearms and Ammunition Identification’, ‘Legal Considerations in Criminal Investigations’, ‘Evidence Management at the Crime Scene’, ‘Evidence Examination and Analysis in the Laboratory’, ‘Intelligence and Investigation Tools’, as well as practical exercises. Participants also benefitted from presentations by INTERPOL on addressing firearms trafficking, firearms tracing and investigative tools, as well as Belize’s Director of Public Prosecutions on the national legislative context.



The EMC is part of UNLIREC’s Caribbean Operational Forensic Ballistics Assistance Package, which is made possible thanks to the support of the governments of Canada, Germany, and the United States of America.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St.Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Arambar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

PEACE SPOTLIGHT

UNLIREC's First Symposium on Women and Security held in Peru for over 40 women 'Forces of Change' from the region

12-13 December: UNLIREC held its first “Symposium on Women and Security” in Lima, Peru, aimed at more than 40 women from the region who dedicate their work to advancing the global peace and security agenda, the Symposium provided a forum to present future strategies of the United Nations system to promote women and security in the region. As well, participants deliberated on how 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) can contribute to improving the lives of women in the region, and explored different approaches to strengthening arms control to that end. Throughout the event, ample time was dedicated to identifying and sharing new ideas on empowering women working in the fields of peace and security.

The Symposium also served as a platform to launch “Forces of Change III: Latin American and Caribbean Women Share Experiences on Disarmament, Security and SDG Implementation”, a publication by UNLIREC and the third edition of an innovative initiative highlighting the role of women as agents of change in the field of disarmament, arms control, and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Izumi Nakamitsu, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, noted in her foreword: “[...] it is clear that the region is at the forefront of progress toward the full and equal engagement of women in peace and security discussions and decision-making”. The publication is available at www.unlirec.com

The Symposium was made possible thanks to generous financial support from the Governments of Sweden and Canada.



Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St.Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

Incorporating youth in SDG implementation

UNLIREC and UNV carry out training sessions for youth on SDG 16, security, peace and disarmament



8-9 and 15-16 July: UNLIREC and the United Nations Volunteer Programme (UNV) have been developing the regional Project entitled “Youth volunteerism for Peacebuilding and Disarmament: Youth Measuring Security in the Communities through Participatory Indicators” in Peru, Colombia, Honduras and Trinidad and Tobago. The objective of the project is to implement the 2030 Agenda, to increase the competencies of volunteer leaders with respect to SDG 16, youth, peace, security, disarmament and volunteering. It also seeks to develop indicators to measure the perception of violence and security in their communities through a participatory methodology and the promotion of the role of youth as a relevant player in promoting peace.

Four workshops were held in the city of Trujillo, Peru, under the theme of Youth, Peace and Disarmament. One hundred and twenty volunteers from various organizations participated in sessions that were facilitated by UNLIREC and UNV. In addition, it involved the participation of young volunteers who were part of the alliance with the Cultural Association D1 which promotes the culture of peace through art, dance and human development. The four workshops addressed the different dimensions of the concepts of violence, peace, human security and disarmament. Likewise, practical tools were shared to convert their perceptions of these phenomena into valid indicators for their measurement.

The workshops form part of a series of activities that will take place over 6 months in all four countries. During this time, participatory indicators for SDG 16 will not only be generated, but will also be validated by young people in their communities and presented to local and regional government authorities. In this way, young people will be trained and empowered, making visible their role as promoters of the creation of a just, peaceful and inclusive society.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St. Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

Young volunteers from Trujillo share their concept of "peace" on International Youth Day



5-6 August: On this occasion, within the UNLIREC/UNV joint initiative aimed at supporting youth in beneficiary States in advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, approximately 70 youth volunteers were trained on developing participatory indicators to complement the SDG 16 indicators. The purpose of these indicators will be to highlight a local projection of the young people of Trujillo as to how to measure the level of human security and armed violence in their region. Young people were educated, through three workshops, on the theme, with emphasis being placed on the steps to be taken in creating indicators. After this initial overview, the methodology developed for the project is expected to be applied in future workshops, and the group of volunteers will remain to outline the valid indicators and the proxies.

On the other hand, during the work sessions, the first audiovisual product of the project was presented in Peru in recognition of International Youth Day, 12th August. This year, special emphasis was placed on young people's ability to participate in the "configuration of true peace and to contribute to conflict prevention and transformation, inclusion, social justice, reconciliation and sustainable peace." As part of the celebration, the young volunteers prepared a video which depicted each participant's view of peace. The video was posted on social media using the main hashtag #SayUrPeace.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

Peace and Disarmament Youth Volunteers conduct survey to measure perception of violence in Trujillo

25-26 October: 20 youth volunteers participating in the joint UNLIREC/UNV project conducted over 1,100 surveys to learn about the Trujillo citizens' perception of insecurity.



The purpose of this exercise was to collect information from primary sources and to train young volunteers to use research tools, in this case, multiple-choice surveys. In addition, they learned about the experiences and testimonies of the local population. For these surveys, four locations were chosen. On the first day, the Universidad Nacional de Trujillo (UNT) and the Universidad Privada Antenor Orrego (UPAO) were selected. Both schools have a significant representative young population originating from the targeted communes of the Joint United Nations Human Security Programme where the project has been implemented in Peru. These districts include La Esperanza, Florencia de Mora and El Porvenir. On the second day, the volunteers conducted their survey in the Mercado Modelo in La Esperanza and the historic centre of Trujillo. There, the volunteers gained a clearer picture of the views shared by the general population in relation to the indicators they had developed over the course of the project.

The most common profiles of the respondents were young people between the ages of 18 and 29, out of which 53% were students and women. The main findings of the surveys revealed that close to 500 persons felt fairly unsafe while 330 felt very unsafe in their community. In addition, a third of the respondents had been victims of crime in the last 12 months, while the majority believed that a high probability existed of their becoming victims of extortion in the coming months. Another interesting revelation was that close to 220 respondents had been victims or knew someone close to them who had been a victim, of stray bullets. According to 60% of respondents, a person who is engaged in economic activity in Trujillo is highly likely to become a victim of extortion.

In terms of gender-based violence, 94% of respondents said that it was very likely (587) or likely (491) that a woman would be sexually assaulted, citing the high rates of cases in public, at work and home. This was consistent with the creation of indicators related to this phenomenon, such as cyber-based sexual harassment. On the other hand, when asked whether they knew the points of sale for illegal weapons, over 230 respondents mentioned knowing about the existence of a point of sale in their area. The results were categorized according to age group, sex, district and occupation and were compared with the indicators proposed by the young volunteers.

UNLIREC facilitates workshops aimed at youth volunteers on development of indicators on illicit arms trafficking and disarmament in Honduras



29 September - 1 October: UNLIREC, together with UNV undertook three workshops centred in Honduras aimed at the development of indicators that measure illegal trafficking and disarmament.

Approximately 80 young volunteers from Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula and La Ceiba, leaders of youth organizations engaged in violence prevention and peacebuilding, participated in the three workshops for the development of indicators.

The workshops followed a participatory methodology to ensure that young people's perspectives guided the debate and the definition of indicators. In this regard, the session began with a presentation of key concepts and definitions through local and national case studies that have been reported by the media in recent years. Among the salient issues for young people were stockpile management, the impact of stray bullets and the need to provide training for law enforcement officials, the media and civil society organizations.

The young volunteers developed indicators that concentrated on the information they wanted to measure from a local perspective, incorporating advice given on this process to ensure its validity, as well as a focus on gender and youth. The workshops were a space for creativity and exchange where indicators were proposed. The project's volunteers would then validate these indicators in the upcoming work sessions.

These young Hondurans not only led these workshops, applying technical information and their previous training geared towards the development of indicators, but also provided a critical analysis of human security, armed violence and the illicit trafficking of firearms, phenomena that affect their age group and community. This is a direct contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, specifically SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St. Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

Peace and Disarmament Youth Volunteers present indicators to measure SDG 16

24 November: UNLIREC and UNV joined the young project volunteers in presenting the indicators to local authorities in the city of Trujillo in a private ceremony at the Casa de la Identidad located in the historic centre of Trujillo. These volunteers unveiled the 32 indicators they had developed during the six-month project. The volunteers analyzed them, outlining their relevance, and indicated the sources of information available to the governing bodies. Throughout the project, the volunteer leaders participated in various work sessions where they learned, through an informal educational approach, about concepts related to human security and armed violence. The volunteers created participatory indicators to measure insecurity in their communities, and they shared their knowledge and experiences in their towns through several activities in celebration of International Youth Day and International Day of Peace.

Further, during the ceremony, there was an exhibition of one of the main outreach activities of the Youth for Peace Festival project, which was hosted with the support of the Trujillo Municipality. One of the activities included the reinterpretation of peace and disarmament based on the prize-winning designs of the poster contest organized by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA).



Finally, the submission of indicators represented the final event in the joint project, where the volunteers were also able to share their testimonies. The day culminated in a moving awards ceremony where certificates were awarded to the young volunteers in recognition of the role they played in the training sessions, as well as in the outreach activities and validation workshops.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

Promoting small arms control dialogue

UNLIREC supports the government of Colombia with the modernization of its national legal framework on Less Lethal Weapons



29 October: UNLIREC and the Government of Colombia held a working meeting on the modernization of Colombia's legal framework on Less Lethal Weapons (LLW), an issue considered a priority by the current government. This activity brought together 20 representatives from nine state entities, including Ministries and other institutions, such as the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Defense, Commerce and Industry, Interior and Police, as well as the Colombian Military Industry, the Private Security Oversight Agency and Customs. These institutions form part of the Colombian LLW Working Group, responsible for the preliminary drafting of new legislation on LLWs.

Following UNLIREC's previous LLW Workshop held in Bogota in April, national authorities requested legal and technical drafting assistance. Consequently, the objective of this additional session was to present to the working group the main comments from UNLIREC's legal team on the LLW bill, which is currently under development. This activity forms part of UNLIREC's project entitled "Combat of Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons and Ammunition in Central and South America" currently in execution thanks to financial support from Germany.

As a result, the representatives from the different sectors engaged in a debate on basic issues to be considered in the preliminary analysis of the bill, specifically those aspects regarding definitions, classification and possible control measures for LLW.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC collaborates with CASRA in the development of a Course for Interdicting Small Arms in Postal Shipments

Latin America and the Caribbean have, in general terms, experienced a dramatic increase in armed violence in recent years, driven in large part by the illicit trafficking of firearms, its parts/components, and ammunition. Public policies against illicit arms trafficking in Latin America and the Caribbean have led to an increased use of X-ray technology for the screening of postal shipments. In response, States have called on UNLIREC to provide specialized interdiction tools and X-ray screening training to help combat illicit arms trade by developing a Course for Interdicting Small Arms in Postal Shipments (ISA PS). The project's main goal is to boost the capacity of Latin American and Caribbean states to reduce the distribution of illicit arms and their parts/components via postal shipments.



Crucial milestones of the project were the development of an Arms, Ammunition, Parts and Components Identification Guide in collaboration between UNLIREC and CASRA, and a pilot course and study in Costa Rica.

For more information related to this capacity building initiative, please see Newsletter Issue 16 of the Center for Adaptive Security Research and Applications (CASRA) at <https://www.casra.ch/en/about-us/casra-newsletter.html>

UNLIREC held pilot course in Dominican Republic to identify weapons by means of postal shipment through x-ray technology

13-17 November: Aware of the problem of illicit trafficking in arms, ammunition and their parts and components by means of postal shipments, UNLIREC developed a practical tool to improve the capacity of practitioners in relation to their interpretation of x-ray images and identification of possible concealment methods. The Course for Interdicting Small Arms in Postal Shipments (ISAPS) was born as a result of these efforts, whose second edition was held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic with the invaluable collaboration of the Dominican Postal Institute (INPOSDOM) and the Ministry of Defense.



Thanks to the support of the Center for Adaptive Security Research and Applications (CASRA), UNLIREC designed a methodology that included training based on an electronic platform,

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St. Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Araníbar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

theoretical presentations and a session on identifying concealment methods by means of an x-ray scanner. The ISAPS counted on the participation of officials responsible for the control of packages and luggage at entry and exit points from the INPOSDOM, the General Directorate of Customs, the Ministry of Defense, the Specialized Body for Port Security (CESEP), the Specialized Body in Airport Security and Civil Aviation (CESAC), the National Department of Investigations (DNI) and the National Directorate for the Control of Drugs (DNCD).

To measure the impact of this course, all 40 participants were divided into two groups that received this training in an independent and differentiated manner. The first group, entitled the “on-line” group, only had access to the on-line training platform during three days of the course. The second group, entitled the “joint” group, in addition to accessing the on-line training, were also exposed to on-site training whereby they received training materials and participated in practical exercises on identification techniques of concealment methods using the scanner, for an additional two days. Also, all participants performed initial and final tests, and pledged to train 12 additional hours on the online platform for the next month. When this training is finished, participants will proceed to undergo a final exam.

A preliminary comparative analysis of the performance of both groups in the initial and final tests performed at the beginning and at the end of the course demonstrates that those participants who attended the on-site training and had access to the practical exercise were able to improve their ability to detect prohibited objects by 11% and their ability to discern a false threat by 17%. Once all the participants complete their final exam, a subsequent analysis will be carried out in order to measure the impact of the additional training through the virtual platform.

One of the main pedagogical tool included UNLIREC’s “Arms, Ammunition, Parts and Components Identification Guide”, which includes numerous images obtained by means of x-ray technology, the main physical and material characteristics of arms, their parts and ammunition, as well as their visualization through x-rays. The logical structure of the Guide allows the user to become familiar with the physical appearance of arms, ammunition, parts and components and the equivalence with the images generated by the scanner.

UNLIREC welcomes the contribution of the Federal Republic of Germany, which made possible the development of the Guide and the carrying out of the ISAPS Course.

Improving small arms control by private security companies

UNLIREC continues to strengthen arms control in the private security sector in Guatemala

10-14 July: UNLIREC is making progress in Guatemala with the implementation of activities for the project entitled “Strengthening Capacities for Effective and Transparent Management of Small Arms and Ammunition in the Private Security Sector”. This assistance is provided jointly with the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF).

Within this context, UNLIREC undertook an Executive Seminar for national authorities and private security entrepreneurs, in which good practices, standards and international regulations were presented to strengthen arms control and contribute to better regulation of the private security sector, as well as to its formalization.



In order to educate security companies' technical staff, UNLIREC provided a two-day technical workshop for employees responsible for overseeing arms warehouses. The participants of the workshop received training aimed at incorporating physical security procedures for arms and ammunition in warehouses in order to minimize the risks of diversion for illicit use. The content of the workshop is based on the International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) and the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATGs).

Additionally, UNLIREC carried out voluntary visits to several security companies to assess the level of compliance with the standards and made specific recommendations to adjust the management of the arms and ammunition warehouses and thereby improve their safety and security. Finally, UNLIREC delivered bullet-traps, which allows for the security checks of weapons, thus avoiding the fatal consequences of involuntary firing.

This project is made possible thanks to the financial support of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St. Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

Bolstering ATT implementation through capacity-building

UNLIREC supports Caribbean States in fulfilling their Arms Trade Treaty reporting obligations



6-7 July: UNLIREC held a seminar to aid CARICOM States in fulfilling their Arms Trade Treaty reporting obligations in Bridgetown, Barbados.

The purpose of this Seminar was to provide practical insights into the Treaty's reporting requirements in order to increment the submission rate and quality of ATT and other relevant reports on an annual basis by CARICOM States. Fifteen representatives from ten CARICOM states participated in the activity (Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Suriname.)

The Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Attorney General in Barbados, Deborah Payne, participated in the opening ceremony of the Seminar, where she stated: "As representatives from a small island developing state, we can relate to the reporting burden which treaties demand. This concern has been raised by several member states...The adoption of comprehensive reporting templates and the making of public reporting mandatory have been key objectives of some member states. Barbados shares that view, but also asserts that consideration must be given to those states for whom reporting is a challenge."

The seminar was delivered by the UNLIREC Non-Proliferation and Arms Control Programme team, which benefitted from the added support and expertise of technical experts from the governments of Sweden and Costa Rica, and the CARICOM Implementing Agency for Crime and Security. Presentations and practical exercises were designed to support CARICOM States in preparing the initial and annual reports and understanding how to set up an ATT national control system.

This seminar was funded by the Government of Sweden.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St. Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC supports El Salvador in ATT implementation



20-21 November: UNLIREC continues its commitment to support States from the region in their efforts to effectively implement the Arms Trade Treaty. In this regard, from 20-21 November, UNLIREC and the Ministry of Defense, along with the Salvadorian Chancellery, organized a workshop entitled “Towards internal regulation for ATT implementation”.

This activity represents the first of three workshops that form part of the assistance package sponsored by the ATT Voluntary Trust Fund through which El Salvador requested support to implement a project to provide continuity to its efforts to effectively execute the Treaty.

The activity - targeting 25 national authorities responsible for conventional arms transfers - provided a platform to present and discuss both the normative requirements that derive from the ATT, as well as the relevant national regulations. The aim was to identify the needs and determine the necessary steps for the preparation of the internal legislation that effectively enforces the ATT, as well as to present the draft decree to create the national authority to implement the aforementioned Treaty.

UN Inter-agency Project on Improving Human Security in Northern Peru

Trujillo celebrates Youth for Peace Festival organized by the Joint United Nations Human Security Programme and the Municipality of Trujillo

21 September: In observance of the International Day of Peace and as part of the activities designed by the Joint United Nations Human Security Programme, young volunteers involved in the “Youth Volunteerism for Peacebuilding and Disarmament: Youth Measuring Community Security Through Participatory Indicators” project led various initiatives to promote peace and to raise awareness about disarmament in the “Youth for Peace” Festival. In 2001, the General

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
http://www.unlirec.org

Assembly declared the 21st September, the day for encouraging peacebuilding ideas among nations and peoples, as a day of non-violence and ceasefire.

This Festival, therefore, not only met the objective of empowering the more than 60 young volunteers involved in the project, but also represented a forum for interaction with the community, one in which the volunteers shared the knowledge acquired during their training. Activities were developed based on four central themes: the 2030 Agenda, Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, peace and disarmament.

In particular, interventions were held, such as the “Journey for Peace” photo exhibition, where there was a display of the activities that the Joint United Nations Human Security Programme has been developing in Trujillo since 2014. Furthermore, the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals were presented in an entertaining way, with members of the audience being rewarded for their involvement with tokens designed by the volunteers.



One of the most popular activities was the graphic reinterpretation of the winning entries of the “United Nations Posters for Peace” Competition where attendees were invited to draw their own version of peace and disarmament.

At the same time, there were artistic productions such as a skit, a dance performance and a participatory mural, where members of the public were invited to leave their mark as a sign of their commitment to the creation of a safe and peaceful community. Both the event and the Festival were brought to a close in grand style with a flashmob, also involving young people from the three target communes of the Joint Human Security Programme and the Cultural Association D1 with the piece “Stories of Fire,” which addresses the risks and consequences of illegal trafficking and armed violence.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St.Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC trains legal practitioners in the combat of illicit firearms trafficking in Peru



6 July: UNLIREC held a legal seminar on firearms control in the city of Trujillo (Northern Peru) for more than 30 judges, prosecutors and public defenders in the province with a view to contributing to the training needs of these legal practitioners.

Firearms control norms are part of efficient regulatory frameworks for the appropriate regulation of legal trade and for combating the illicit trafficking of weapons. It is recommended that these norms comply with the related international instruments and treaties. Under this premise, the legal seminar shed light on the main international requirements for firearms and their equivalence within national regulations.

The event was attended by speakers from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in its capacity as President of the National Commission Against Illicit Trafficking in Firearms (CONATIAF), and the National Superintendence for the Control of Security Services, Arms, Ammunition and Explosives for Civilian Use (SUCAMEC).

During the seminar, participants shared the challenges they face in prosecuting illicit arms trafficking cases due to the lack of information on the mechanisms available to process this specific crime. They also highlighted existing challenges in prosecuting the crime of illegal possession of firearms and shared ideas on how best to contribute to strengthening the coordination, communication and cooperation of legal practitioners at the operational level.

UNLIREC is one of five UN agency members of the joint United Nations' Programme for Human Security which works with public institutions and local authorities in Trujillo to reduce and prevent crime in general, gender violence and the involvement of adolescents in criminal activities.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia . Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala . Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia . Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St. Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Arambar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC and Peru come together to combat the presence of firearms in school



6 December: UNLIREC organized a seminar entitled “International Initiatives for Prevention and Action regarding Presence of Firearms in Schools” in Trujillo, Peru. The seminar formed part of the United Nations Joint Programme for Human Security.

Over the course of the past years, the different forms of violence affecting school environments in Latin America and the Caribbean have attracted the attention and concern of governments, international organizations, and the society in general. A number of studies have identified the presence of firearms in schools as a risk factor for violence, negatively impacting the physical and psychological security of both children and youth, as well as the teachers in the region.

The seminar organized by UNLIREC sought to create deeper understanding of this phenomenon and to develop solutions to address the challenge of firearms in schools, with attendance by approximately 80 participants from the Ministries of Education, Foreign Affairs, and Interior, as well as from the regional, municipal, and district levels of the department of La Libertad. Also school directors, teachers, parents associations, youth from Trujillo were present and shared their views concerning the challenge of firearms in schools.

The seminar outlined the series of initiatives and best practices found in Peru and in other countries in region that deal with the issue of firearms in schools. The emphasis was placed on exploring protocols, guidelines, and intervention mechanisms regarding the presence, carrying, and use of firearms in schools, drawing from the national experiences of Costa Rica, Argentina, and Mexico. Furthermore, the seminar also served as a relevant forum to present the additional tools used in Peru and Guatemala, such as surveys and registers of violent incidents to gauge this phenomenon.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

Supporting Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004)

UNLIREC co-hosts UNSCR 1540 National Roundtable with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Antigua and Barbuda



24 July: UNLIREC co-hosted a UNSCR 1540 National Roundtable Workshop with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Antigua and Barbuda. The event brought together representatives from a broad range of national authorities including the Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Legal Affairs; Trade and Commerce, Office of National Drug and Money Laundering Control Policy; Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Control Board; Analytical Services; Customs; and the Antigua and Barbuda Police and Defence Forces. Additionally, the workshop was attended by VERTIC, Stimson Centre and CARICOM's 1540 Regional Implementation Coordinator.

The roundtable provided a forum for delivery of the findings and recommendations of UNLIREC's National Legal Study of Antigua and Barbuda's domestic legislative framework, as well as to introduce the national action plan concept within the Antiguan context. Dialogue exchanges were fruitful, lively and demonstrative of the strong commitment and will of the agencies and institutions around the table to continue strengthening measures and adopting effective mechanisms to combat WMD proliferation.

UNLIREC looks forward to returning to St John's in the near future to continue working with national authorities in the identification of national priorities associated with the implementation of UNSCR 1540. This collaborative event is financed in its entirety by the Government of Canada and forms part of a wider UNLIREC Programme aimed at supporting State implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004).

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St. Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC and the Peruvian Government hold a training session on the international non-proliferation regime of weapons of mass destruction



4 August: UNLIREC and the Peruvian Government held a training session aimed at deepening knowledge on the international non-proliferation regime of weapons of mass destruction (WMD), with special emphasis on the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) and UNSCR Resolution 1540 (2004). This meeting brought together 48 representatives from 11 institutions and agencies, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Defense, Health, Production, National Police, National Superintendence of Tax Administration and the Peruvian Institute of Nuclear Energy, among others.

During the workshop, participants received information on the content of the main non-proliferation treaties and conventions, as well as Resolution 1540. Representatives of the different institutions and sectors were also able to discuss and exchange information on the national legal and institutional frameworks. Likewise, authorities discussed various legal and policy considerations necessary for the modernization of legislation, particularly in the biological field.

Earlier this year in March 2017, UNLIREC had the opportunity to support national authorities in the preparation of a 1540 roadmap (akin to the National Action Plans) outlining national priorities for the implementation of the resolution. The Roadmap was formally presented to the 1540 Committee in July of this year. This capacity building session forms part of UNLIREC's 1540 Assistance Package which benefits from the financial support of the Canadian government.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC and Government of Peru held working session on normative implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention and UNSCR 1540



25 August: As a follow-up to the 1540-related event held earlier this month, UNLIREC and the Government of Peru held a working meeting on the national implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) and the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540. This activity brought together 23 representatives from 12 state entities, including Ministries and other institutions, such as: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Defense, Health, Agriculture, Justice and Human Rights, Interior, Environment, Production, INDECI, among others.

The objective of the session was to present to the working table the main comments from UNLIREC's legal team regarding the "Bill on the Prohibition of Biological and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction". The strengthening of the national regulatory framework in the field of non-proliferation of biological weapons was considered a priority by Peru in its Roadmap on the implementation of Resolution 1540. This activity is part of UNLIREC's 1540 assistance package currently in execution thanks to the financial support from Canada.

As a result, representatives from the different sectors began the debate on the basic issues to be considered in the preliminary analysis of the bill and its effective adaptation to the international obligations assumed by Peru in the field of non-proliferation of biological arms. In addition, basis were set for the next working meeting, the second in a series aimed at accompanying the Government of Peru in its national efforts to align and adapt the national legal framework with the mandates of the BWC and Resolution 1540.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC and Guyana advance WMD non-proliferation agenda in the country



29 August: UNLIREC representatives teamed up with the Guyanese Ministry of Public Security to host a national roundtable event in Georgetown. The purpose of which was to present Guyana with its UNSCR 1540 National Legal Study and highlight to national authorities its key findings and recommendations. The event was attended by participants representing a broad-range of government stakeholder organizations, including the Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Agriculture; Finance; Guyana Revenue Authority; Guyana Police Force and the Guyana Defence Force.

The National Legal Study analyzed Guyana's existing legislative framework against the operative paragraphs of UNSCR 1540 and will be one of the key documents relied upon in assisting Guyana in identifying what needs, challenges and areas exist for strengthening the implementation of the resolution within the Guyanese context.

UNLIREC plans to return to Georgetown next month to provide support in Georgetown's development of its 1540 National Action Plan.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC makes progress in the elaboration of a WMD control list in the Dominican Republic



4 September: UNLIREC held a workshop in Santo Domingo that brought together a group of officials from the customs sector. The aim of the event was to present the methodology developed by UNLIREC for the creation of a focus list related to weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

In addition, UNLIREC organized a two-day workshop in which representatives of government institutions, with responsibilities related to the non-proliferation of WMDs, worked jointly with UNLIREC to prepare the first version of the focus list for the Dominican Republic.

Considering the country's strategic trade map as a basis, the focus list is a practical tool aimed at supporting officers on the frontline who are responsible for border protection by identifying commonly traded strategic goods relevant to WMD proliferation. This tool is also intended to introduce improvements in risk analysis procedures at entry and exit points in the country.

The multi-day event also provided an opportunity to draw a roadmap focused on the preparation of the final version of WMD-related focus list. These activities form part of UNLIREC's 1540 Assistance Package, currently being implemented thanks to the financial support from Canada.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St. Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Araníbar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC and IMO Cooperate with the Government of Peru to Improve Maritime and Port Security



18-19 September: UNLIREC and the International Maritime Organization (IMO), in collaboration with the Government of Peru, organized a table top exercise on improving maritime and port security. The event brought together close to 30 representatives from various state entities, who were presented with a series of real scenarios that included situations related to cybersecurity in port areas; aspects related to the physical protection of ports; illicit trafficking of materials of proliferation concern; illicit trafficking of firearms; security-related health crisis; inspections of maritime safety and the management of hazardous materials.

The main objective of the event was to support the State in the implementation of IMO maritime security measures, including those under the SOLAS Convention and the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS Code), in addition to the implementation of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 dealing with the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. During the exercises participants had the opportunity to discuss normative frameworks, current procedures, roles and responsibilities as well as the need for intersectoral cooperation in the areas mentioned. As a result, participants drew up a series of conclusions identifying opportunities for improvement.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

The activity was the sixth time that UNLIREC worked together with IMO to offer this type of simulation exercises, and forms part of UNLIREC's 1540 Assistance Package, currently being implemented thanks to the financial support of Canada.

UNLIREC and government of Guyana advance creation of voluntary National Action Plan on UNSCR 1540 implementation



4 October: UNLIREC travelled to Georgetown, Guyana to co-host a National Action Plan (NAP) workshop with Guyana's Ministry of Public Security as part of UNLIREC's Programme for Strengthening the Capacities of States in Latin America and the Caribbean to Implement UNSCR 1540 (2004).

The NAP workshop was a follow-on event from the recently held National Legal Study roundtable and it provided a forum for national authority representatives to come together, with UNLIREC's assistance, to develop a draft NAP document that sets out Guyana's plan for implementing resolution 1540.

Participating agencies included the Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Public Health; Public Affairs; Agriculture; Finance; Guyana Revenue Authority; Guyana Police Force and Guyana Defence Force. The roundtable workshop was also attended and supported by Dr Richard Cupitt, Senior Associate Stimson Centre as well as a member of the 1540 Group of Experts.

The workshop proved to be extremely productive, with a draft NAP produced before the day concluded.

UNLIREC looks forwards to having the opportunity to provide Guyana with continued assistance both in the further elaboration of its draft NAP for UNSCR 1540 implementation and more broadly, through UNLIREC's other disarmament programmes.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St. Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC presented Caribbean Control List proposal to Belizean authorities

13 October: UNLIREC hosted a specialized workshop in Belize City for close to 20 national authorities from the country's Customs and Excise Department focusing on the delivery of the Caribbean Control List construct.

In addition to presenting the concept of the Caribbean Control List, sessions of the workshop were also devoted to learning about the identification of particular dual-use and WMD sensitive items that may present themselves at Belizean borders. The workshop provided a forum for discussion on how a national control list might practically be implemented from an operational perspective.

The workshop was able to take place thanks to generous funding provided by the Government of Canada as part of the strengthening implementation of UNSCR 1540 programme in the Latin American and Caribbean region.

UNLIREC contributes to Suriname's voluntary 1540 National Action Plan and creation of an inter-institutional mechanism



9 November: UNLIREC representatives travelled to Paramaribo, Suriname as part of UNLIREC's UNSCR 1540 implementation programme to host a combined workshop focusing on the development of Suriname's voluntary National Action Plan (NAP) and the creation of an inter-institutional mechanism.

The workshop was a follow-on event from the National Legal Study Roundtable held in April 2017 and it provided a forum for national authority representatives to come together, with UNLIREC's assistance, to develop a draft NAP document that sets out Suriname's plan for implementing resolution 1540.

Participating agencies included the Ministries of Defense; Foreign Affairs; Civil Aviation Safety Authority Suriname; National Assembly; Suriname Police Corps; Bureau of National Security; Central Bank of Suriname; National Assembly; and Customs. The event was ultimately very fruitful with a draft NAP produced before the conclusion of the day's event.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St. Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

Suriname, through its Ministry of Defense, has sustained strong efforts in relation to the resolution's implementation throughout the year. UNLIREC welcomes the opportunity to provide Suriname with continued assistance both in the further elaboration of its draft NAP and more broadly, through UNLIREC's other disarmament programmes.

UNLIREC's WMD Control List features in World Customs Organization's sub-regional workshop



28 November: UNLIREC's Caribbean Control List was presented as part of a sub-regional workshop on Strategic Trade Controls Enforcement co-organized by the World Customs Organization (WCO) and UNLIREC. The four-day workshop - held in the Dominican Republic - brought together customs and law enforcement officials from over ten countries in the Caribbean region.

The purpose of the workshop was to train participants in detecting strategic trade items and to support participating states in fulfilling their obligations under United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (UNSCR 1540). The resolution requires States to put in place relevant regulatory national mechanisms to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

In 2017, UNLIREC launched a sub-regional guide to control lists, specifically addressing the needs of the states in the Caribbean region. The guide analyses the trade patterns in the region and directly supports effective implementation of UNSCR 1540. UNLIREC presented the adjoined Control and Focus Lists during the workshop, concentrating on the strategic goods and technology featured most prominently in Caribbean trade.

Furthermore, the Dominican Republic presented their national experience in the enforcement of strategic trade controls. The state representative noted, in particular, the valuable support provided by UNLIREC's legal team and trade control experts during the legislative review and in developing a tailor-made national control list.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
<http://www.unlirec.org>

UNLIREC Agenda (Jan-Jun 2018)

JANUARY

- ✓ *ATT workshop on identification of conventional weapons*
San Salvador, El Salvador
- ✓ *ATT-OP2 Roadmap Activity I*
Bogota, Colombia

FEBRUARY

- ✓ *ATT Technical Workshop on Evaluation of Transfers and Reports*
Guatemala City, Guatemala
- ✓ *Expert Peer Review Gathering 1540-Licensing*
Lima, Peru
- ✓ *Regional preparatory meeting for the Third Review Conference on the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons - Latin America*
Lima, Peru
- ✓ *Regional preparatory meeting for the Third Review Conference on the Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons - Caribbean*
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
- ✓ *1540 National Licensing Workshop*
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
- ✓ *Workshop on National Action Plan Development Interinstitutional Mechanism*
Paramaribo, Suriname
- ✓ *National Firearms and Ammunition Evidence Management Course (EMC) and National Executive Meeting (NEM)*
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
- ✓ *Workshop on National Action Plan Development Interinstitutional Mechanism*
Georgetown, Guyana

MARCH

- ✓ *Introduction to Post Blast Investigations/Explosive Precursor Chemical Workshop*
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- ✓ *1540 Regional Seminar*
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- ✓ *Presentation of the National Focus-Control List*
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- ✓ *Launching of the Private Security Project*
Guadalajara, Mexico
- ✓ *FMCT Regional Conference – Latin America*
Lima, Peru

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda . Argentina . Bahamas . Barbados . Belize . Bolivia . Brazil . Chile . Colombia
Costa Rica . Cuba . Dominican Republic . Dominica . Ecuador . El Salvador . Grenada . Guatemala
Guyana . Haiti . Honduras . Jamaica . Mexico . Nicaragua . Panama . Paraguay . Peru . Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines . St.Kitts and Nevis . Suriname . Trinidad and Tobago . Uruguay . Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
http://www.unlirec.org

- ✓ *Regional Hazardous Materials Workshop – Introduction to Post-Blast Investigations/Explosive Precursor Chemical Workshop*
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
- ✓ *Binational Firearms and Ammunition Evidence Management Course (EMC)*
Basseterre, Saint Kitts and Nevis

APRIL

- ✓ *Subregional Seminar on Private Security*
San Jose, Costa Rica
- ✓ *Discussion Process for the Elaboration of a National Control List Workshop*
San Salvador, El Salvador
- ✓ *Interdicting Small Arms in Postal Shipments (ISAPS) Course*
Montevideo, Uruguay
- ✓ *Legal Gaps Work-sessions*
Guatemala City, Guatemala

MAY

- ✓ *Regional OFB Seminar*
Lima, Peru
- ✓ *Private Security Executive Seminar and Technical Workshop and Less Lethal Weapons Workshop*
Mexico City, Mexico
- ✓ *Interdicting Small Arms in Postal Shipments (ISAPS) Course*
Montevideo, Uruguay
- ✓ *Legal Gaps Work-sessions*
Guatemala City, Guatemala

JUNE

- ✓ *FMCT Regional Conference – Caribbean*
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
- ✓ *Control List Workshop and National Authorities*
Guatemala City, Guatemala

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St. Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

Complejo Javier Pérez de Cuellar
Av. Pérez Aranibar 750
Magdalena del Mar – Lima 17, Perú
Tel: +51.1.6259114
mail: info@unlirec.org
http://www.unlirec.org