

Small Arms & Light Weapons

TEAM JAMAICA

Challenge

- **Latin America and the Caribbean remains the most violent region on the planet,**
 - homicide rate of 23 per 100,000 inhabitants (four times higher than the world average).
 - The region accounts for 39% of world homicides, though it has only 9% of the global population”.
- **“the region as a whole, has registered more than 2.5 million murders since 2000, roughly 75% of which are firearm-related.”**
- **Projections are that the regional murder rate is expected to grow from approximately 22 per 100,000 in 2017 to around 35 per 100,000 by 2030”**
- Jamaica has been in the top 5 countries for the past 20 years.

Current State

- **Since 2018, the security forces have taken more than 3,200 illegal firearms and in excess of 53,000 rounds of ammunition from our streets.**
- Security forces have seized upwards of 625 firearms annually,
- Base on the firearm seizures so far this year, they are well on course to surpass the 703 firearms that were seized in 2021.
- **The government responded to this crisis with a strong, comprehensive and impactful legislation, with a mandatory minimum sentence that will effectively deter criminals.**

Small Arms & Light Weapons

- Launch recently and aims at Reducing Small Arms & Light Weapons in Jamaica joint programme, also known as SALIENT Jamaica, (Saving Lives Entity) is geared at reducing violence and the proliferation of illicit firearms. The Joint Programme, crafted with Ministry of National Security and 4 UN entities, as it seeks to aligned to Jamaica's National Development Goal 2- "The Jamaican society is secure, cohesive and just" and several Sustainable Development Goals.
- SALIENT Jamaica will be jointly implemented over a twelve-month period by four UN entities:
 - The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
 - The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA) and the Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC)
 - The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
 - The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Small Arms & Light Weapons

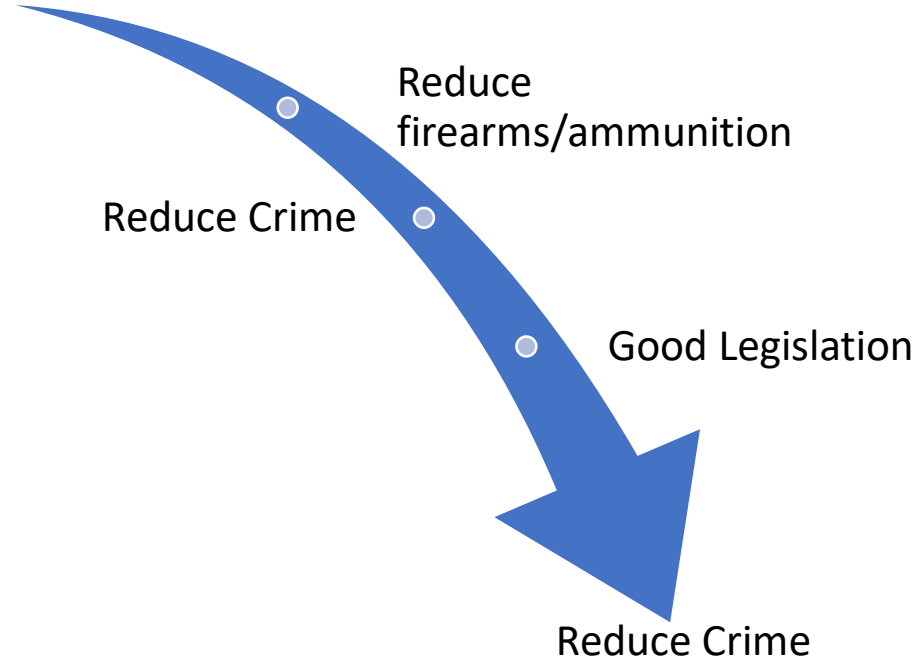
- The United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA) and
Specifically, this programme aims to enhance the legislative and institutional frameworks to stymie the flow of small arms into the country. To facilitate this,
 1. legislative review and development of required national strategies
 2. Building the capacity of local law enforcement agencies.
 3. Building capacity at our seaports, airports

Small Arms & Light Weapons

- Working at the Community Level
- Research around violence in vulnerable communities - piloting a violence audit in Norwood and Denham Town.
 - Findings of the violence audit will be a catalyst for more targeted violence prevention and reduction programming in these and other similar communities.
- Schools - given the multi-dimensional nature of crime and violence, an upscaling of existing projects to reduce the circulation of small arms in schools and communities will be undertaken.
- Specifically, the objective of the joint programme will be achieved through two distinct, but complementary outcomes:
 - Outcome 1: Control of small arms is improved and access to firearms and ammunition is reduced
 - Outcome 2: Populations at-risk benefit from armed violence prevention/reduction programmes.
- 76Mil Investment in 12months, pilot, with intention to scale to a larger programme

Small Arms & Light Weapons

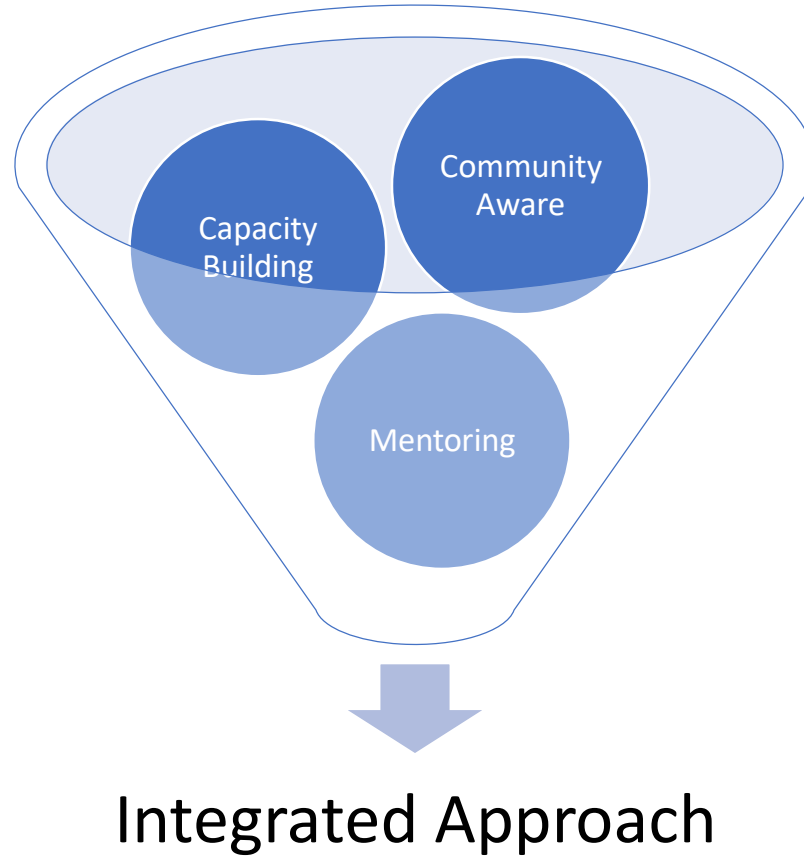
Approx. 80% Crime
(Hon. Chang)



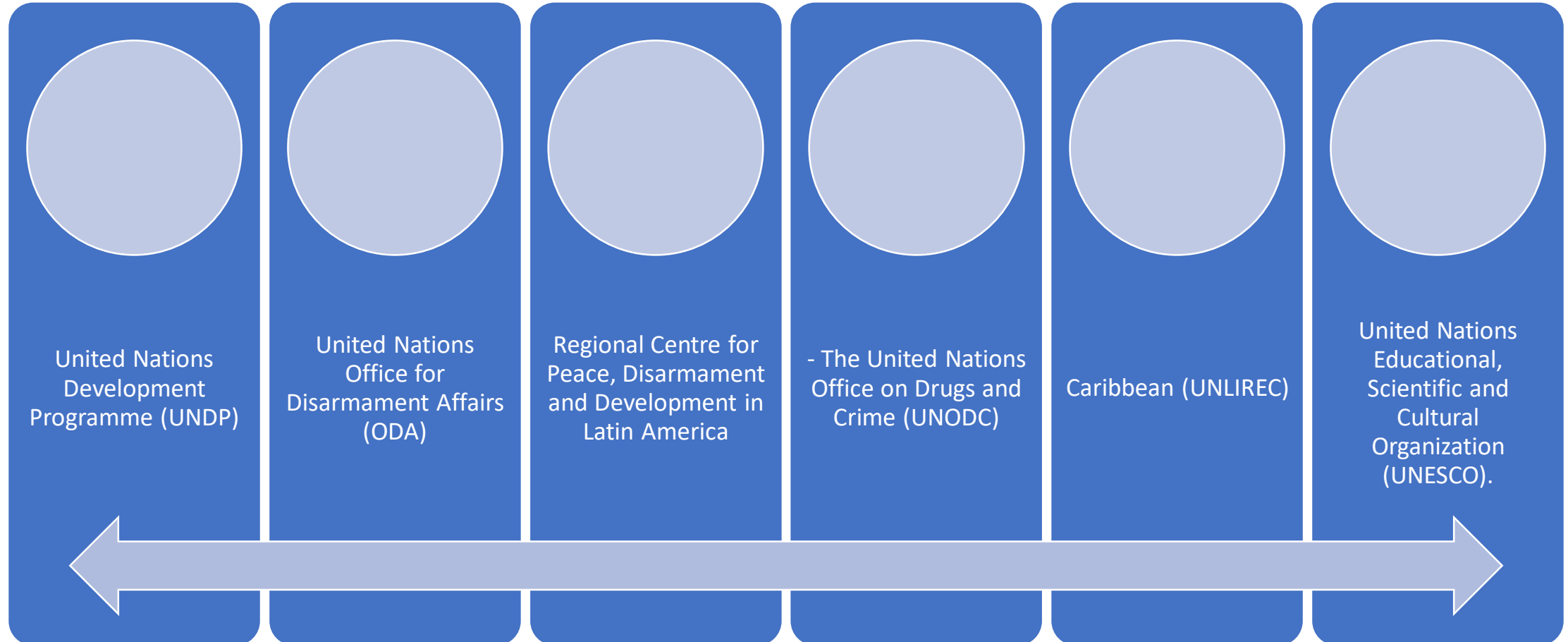
Small Arms & Light Weapons – Prevent and Control



Small Arms & Light Weapons – Integration – Demand Side



Small Arms & Light Weapons – UN Integration – Supply Side



THE FIREARMS (PROHIBITION, RESTRICTION AND REGULATION) ACT, 2022

- This piece of legislation presents a strong deterrent to persons who are involved in trafficking, diversion, manufacture, stockpiling and the movement of firearms, their parts, components and ammunition. September 27, 2022
- Firearms (Prohibition, Restriction and Regulation) Act, 2022 seeks to repeal and replace the Firearms Act of 1967.

THE FIREARMS (PROHIBITION, RESTRICTION AND REGULATION) ACT, 2022

The Law is expansive, however, three notable modifications

- ❖ **Clause 6** of the Bill deals with Stockpiling and makes an offence - possession of or cause to accumulate three (3) or more prohibited weapons, or fifty (50) or more rounds of ammunition. **The penalty provision is imprisonment for life and the mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 20 years before becoming eligible for parole.**
- ❖ **Clause 7** introduces the offence of Trafficking in prohibited weapon and criminalizes a person who imports, exports, transits, trans-ships, brokers, acquires, sells, delivers, moves or transfers prohibited weapons from or within Jamaica or across Jamaica's borders. **The penalty for tracking is imprisonment for life with a mandatory term of imprisonment of 20 years before becoming eligible for parole.**
- ❖ **Clause 8** criminalizes possession of a prohibited weapon with intent to traffic and provides for a penalty of **imprisonment for life with a mandatory minimum sentence of 20 years before becoming eligible for parole.**

Small Arms & Light Weapons – Women

- Women, generally speaking are under-represented in policy development and implementation around Small Arms & Light Weapons –
 - HOWEVER...

Women Involvement



THE HONOURABLE **MARISA COLLEEN DALRYMPLE PHILIBERT**, MP · **Speaker** of the House of Representatives ·



THE HONOURABLE **JULIET HOLNESS**, MP · **Deputy Speaker** of the House of Representatives ·

	PAC	PAAC	LOWER HOUSE	UPPER HOUSE
Male	12	8	45	13
Female	3 (20%)	6 (43%)	18 (29%)	8 (38%)
Total	15	14	63	21

Women Parliamentarians (29%)



Women of the Upper House (38%)



Conclusion – Journey Continues

