

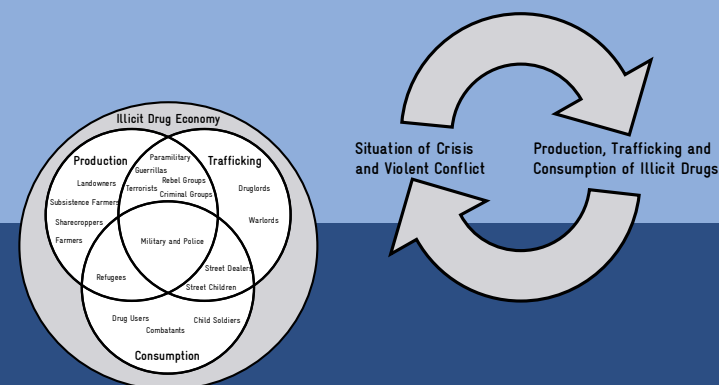
Recommendations

- create framework conditions under which the Illicit Drug Economy (IDE) cannot flourish
- make development-oriented drug control the prime focus of international drug control policy
- promote good governance and the rule of law
- strengthen and reform the security sector within the framework of the rule of law
- fund research into the relationship between drugs and conflict at community level
- refine the analytical instruments and development cooperation practices in order to apply conflict processing mechanisms in the local setting
- promote alternative livelihood and rural development strategies
- support drug demand reduction strategies

The discussion paper on Drugs and Conflict was produced by the GTZ Development-oriented Drug Control Programme (DDC) and is available on the DDC website

www.gtz.de/drogen

We would welcome any comments and suggestions.



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A brief outline of the discussion paper **Drugs and Conflict**

How the mutual impact of illicit drug
economies and violent conflict
influences sustainable development,
peace and stability

gtz DDC
Development-oriented
Drug Control Programme

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 Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development



Challenges for International Drug Control and Development Cooperation

Supply reduction strategies, such as eradication and interdiction, spark conflicts and contribute to the outbreak of violence. Illicit drug farmers and/or traffickers may clash with law enforcement officers when eradication and interdiction plans are put into action. Farm workers and sharecroppers may lose their jobs due to the destruction of illicit drug fields. It is not hard to incite them to participate in civil disobedience and violent action. Furthermore, a repressive state policy against drug farmers seriously damages the legitimacy of the central government. As legitimacy is one of the core functions of statehood, embarking on an eradication campaign without securing sustainable alternative income opportunities for the farmers affected will certainly weaken the state.

Moreover, if the population believes that development cooperation is linked to the repressive policy towards drug farmers, its credibility will suffer and its work in other areas will be jeopardised.

For these reasons, development-oriented drug control should be given priority in international counter narcotics policies.

The Drug Profile Analysis was developed by DDC as a tool for assessing the two-way impact of drugs and conflict on projects and project environments. The information gained can then be used to adjust interventions. For more information please contact DDC.

The Aims of the Discussion Paper on Drugs and Conflict

In recent years, German foreign and development policy have placed greater emphasis on conflict, conflict transformation, crisis prevention and peace consolidation. The discussion paper on Drugs and Conflict addresses these complex issues, highlights the linkages between drugs and conflict and aims to stimulate further discussion on the role of development-oriented drug control in conflict regions.

Conflict and War

Illicit Drug Economies (IDEs) flourish in times of violent local conflict, during "new wars" and in failed and fragile states:

- "New wars" are typically fought between sub-state armed groups that are driven by greed and prepared to operate with increasing brutality.
- Intra-state wars are generally the cause or the result of a breakdown of state functions (failed state).
- The political economy of violent conflict is characterised by powerful political factions, economic groupings and individuals that have access to illicit funds and who use violent or non-violent means to spark and perpetuate violent conflict.

Drugs and Conflict – a Vicious Circle

Drug production, trafficking and consumption tend to increase in times of crisis and violent conflict. Conversely, IDEs create conditions that are conducive to the outbreak of violence.

How drugs and conflict interact:

- **IDEs fund ongoing conflicts**
The Illegal Drug Economy is a source of funding for combatant groups and insurgents.
- **Conflict stimulates IDEs**
Wars, upheaval and instability destroy the perspectives for economic development, devastate fertile farming land and displace large parts of the population. In order to secure their livelihoods, families start to cultivate illicit drug crops.
- **IDEs contribute to state failure**
Drug money undermines formal institutions by encouraging corruption and/or facilitating the infiltration of these institutions by actors in the IDE.
- **IDEs exacerbate local conflicts**
Drug money generated by illicit cultivation helps finance actors engaged in conflicts at community level.
- **IDEs challenge traditional institutions**
Funds generated by the IDE undermine "traditional" institutions that were formerly a guarantee of stability in the society.
- **Conflict encourages drug consumption**
War-related trauma contributes to increased drug consumption.