South-East Europe (SEE) remains an area of concern and an important challenge in the European Union (EU) Strategy to combat illicit accumulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and their ammunition. While significant progress has been made in recent years, the sheer scale of the accumulation of SALW and ammunition, inadequate storage conditions, large illicit possession, policymaking and implementation-capacity gaps continue to limit the effectiveness of SALW control efforts.

To ensure consistent progress, secure the gains and pave the way for a long-term solution, the EU Council Decision (CFSP) 2016/2356 on 19 December 2016 in support of SEESAC disarmament and arms control activities in SEE sets the framework for the continuation of 15 years of work on tackling threats posed by SALW in the region.

The EU provided EUR 6,508,136 for the period 2017-2019 of SEESAC’s SALW control work to focus on four main areas (see the other side).

The project contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 5 (on gender equality) and 16 (on peace, justice and strong institutions).

The project’s geographic scope is South East Europe, with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as direct project beneficiaries, and facilitation of knowledge transfer and expertise to Eastern European countries facing similar SALW challenges, specifically Ukraine and Belarus.

This phase of the EUSAC project directly builds on SEESAC’s achievements of the past decade and supported by the EU Council Decisions 2013/730/CFSP, 2010/179/CFSP, 2004/791/CFSP, 2003/807/CFSP, 2002/842/CFSP.

*References to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).
INCREASED REGIONAL COOPERATION AND EVIDENCE-BASED POLICYMAKING
through enhanced capacity for data collection and analysis; information sharing, training and knowledge exchange

IMPROVED CAPACITY FOR PHYSICAL SECURITY AND STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT (PSSM) THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES, SURPLUS REDUCTION AND TRAINING
reducing the risk of proliferation

ENHANCED SECURITY OF POLICE STOCKPILES THROUGH INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES AT STORAGES AND EVIDENCE ROOMS
up to 50,000

SURPLUS AND CONFISCATED SALW DESTROYED
up to 500,000 ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION AND EXPLOSIVES DESTROYED

TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE BETWEEN SEE AND BELARUS AND UKRAINE
conducted through the facilitation of participation in select formal meetings and the translation and dissemination of existing SALW control tools.

ENHANCED CAPACITY FOR MARKING, TRACING AND RECORD-KEEPING
through regional cooperation and resulting in the reduced threat of illicit trafficking of firearms

REGIONAL SALW SURVEY
updating the baseline on the challenge posed by the wide-scale possession and proliferation of SALW in the region.

ARMED VIOLENCE MONITORING PLATFORM
enabling the systematic tracking of trends in the misuse of firearms through data collection and analysis.

ON-DEMAND POLICY-RELEVANT KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS
developed to increase understanding among policymakers and implementers on the complexity of SALW control.

TRAINING SESSIONS PROVIDING TECHNICAL ADVICE AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
enhancing evidence based SALW policy development and implementation.

GENDER COACH PROGRAM
strengthening capacities of SALW Commissions to integrate the gender perspective into SALW control policies.

TARGETED TRAINING, TECHNICAL AND ADVISORY SUPPORT TO SEEFEN MEMBERS
strengthening registration systems and firearms-related intelligence capabilities.

FIREARMS FOCAL POINTS ESTABLISHED
acting as central information collection and analysis units supporting investigators and prosecutors, and enabling the building and updating of the intelligence picture on firearms trafficking from and through SEE.

REGIONAL PHYSICAL SECURITY AND STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT TRAINING OF TRAINERS, AND SUPPORT FOR LOCAL LEVEL TAILOR MADE TRAININGS
boosting the capacity of staff in Ministries of Interior and Police Services to safeguard stockpiles and thus lower the risk of SALW proliferation.

SEEFEN MEETINGS FOCUSING ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND COORDINATION BETWEEN LAW-ENFORCEMENT FIREARMS EXPERTS
serving as a platform for information exchange and increased cooperation among law-enforcement agencies in SEE to combat illicit trafficking of SALW and their ammunition.

6 REGIONAL MEETINGS OF SALW COMMISSIONS AND RELEVANT POLICYMAKING BODIES
increasing the capacity of SALW Commissions and relevant institutions engaged in arms control by facilitating information sharing, knowledge exchange, standardization and the development of common solutions.

6 SEEFEN MEETINGS FOCUSING ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND COORDINATION BETWEEN LAW-ENFORCEMENT FIREARMS EXPERTS
acting as a platform for information exchange and increased cooperation among law-enforcement agencies in SEE to combat illicit trafficking of SALW and their ammunition.

10 ON-DEMAND POLICY-RELEVANT KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS
developed to increase understanding among policymakers and implementers on the complexity of SALW control.

3 TRAINING SESSIONS PROVIDING TECHNICAL ADVICE AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT
enhancing evidence based SALW policy development and implementation.

3 GENDER COACH PROGRAM
strengthening capacities of SALW Commissions to integrate the gender perspective into SALW control policies.

7 REGIONAL PHYSICAL SECURITY AND STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT TRAINING OF TRAINERS, AND SUPPORT FOR LOCAL LEVEL TAILOR MADE TRAININGS
boosting the capacity of staff in Ministries of Interior and Police Services to safeguard stockpiles and thus lower the risk of SALW proliferation.

7 FIREARMS FOCAL POINTS ESTABLISHED
acting as central information collection and analysis units supporting investigators and prosecutors, and enabling the building and updating of the intelligence picture on firearms trafficking from and through SEE.

3 TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR MARKING AND TRACING
enhancing registration systems and ballistic intelligence capabilities through provision of technical and advisory support.