



AR/067

28 April 2006

SEESAC ACTIVITY REPORT – AR/067

SALW FILM FESTIVAL, REPUBLIC OF SERBIA 03 – 05 APRIL 2006

SEESAC FUNCTIONAL AREA	FA 3 - Management Information FA 4 - SALW Awareness and Communication Strategy
SEESAC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY	OA 2 - Coordination Measures OA 3 - Information Management and Exchange Activities

One of SEESAC’s operational objectives is to share information on, and enhance co-operation in the establishment and implementation of SALW control and reduction programmes as well as to provide linkage and co-ordination with other relevant regional initiatives. To support this SEESAC organised a three-day Film Festival to highlight the issue of the impact and uncontrolled proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), targeting all relevant stakeholders in the Republic of Serbia.



The SALW Film Festival ran from 03 – 05 April 2006 and was hosted by Serbia’s prestigious Centre for Film Archives ‘Kinoteka’ in Belgrade. The Festival was designed to target the diplomatic and donor community, representatives from the Ministries and relevant institutions in Serbia, and all local NGOs engaged on SALW-related issues, in order to generate knowledge and support for SALW Control interventions. It was considered a pilot for other similar festivals within SEE.



The SALW Film Festival screened three films, never seen before in Serbia, which addressed SALW issues of relevance to the SEE region: *Lord of War*, *American Gun* and *Bullet Boy*. A spoof advert for AK47s developed by Amnesty UK in support of the Control Arms campaign was also shown, as was the documentary ‘A Lethal Legacy’, which tackles the proliferation and impact of SALW in SEE.

The UN Resident Coordinator, Lance Clarke, launched the event. The audience reflected the wide range of SALW stakeholders within Serbia. These included representatives from the EU Delegation, Australian Embassy, British Embassy, UN Office in SCG, OSCE, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia and the Institute for Health Protection. NGO participation included the Institute of War and Peace Reporting, National Democratic Institute, Pax Christi Netherlands, Centre for Civil-Military Relations, UN Student Club, Balkan Youth Union and the Student Union of Serbia.

During the Festival, all audience members received information on SEESAC’s work as well as the project activities of the UNDP Small Arms Control Project in Serbia and Montenegro (SACISCG).



The local NGO, Balkan Youth Union, gathered photographs and support for the 'Million Faces' petition in support of the Control Arms Campaign.

For more information about SEESAC initiatives as part of its Media and Communication Strategy, please contact Ana Martinovic, the SEESAC Communications Officer (ana.martinovic@undp.org).

Adrian Wilkinson
SEESAC

Office: +381 11 344 6353

Mobile: +381 63 217 350

Fax: +381 11 344 6356

E Mail: adrian.wilkinson@undp.org

URL: www.seesac.org