SEESAC ACTIVITY REPORT – AR/081  
COMMUNITY BASED POLICING PAPER – 2ND EDITION

| SEESAC FUNCTIONAL AREA | OA 1 - Capacity Building  
OA 3 - Information Management and Exchange  
OA 8 - Research Activities |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|

SEESAC has a responsibility within its mandate to advise on legislative issues and the collection and registration of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and to provide support to projects relating to the control of SALW within South Eastern and Eastern Europe.

The initial Community-Based Policing (CBP) Principles and Philosophy study was conducted in the Summer of 2003 as part of a three-phase project in support of the work of the UNDP Albania Support to Security Sector Reform (SSSR) project. The second phase saw the development, by Saferworld (UK) in early 2004, of an operational framework document for the Albanian Police and on the basis of the 1st Edition UNDP Albania’s SSSR project began its work on community-based policing.

Over the last several years the SALW intervention activities of UNDP have led to the development of new operational theories to support appropriate armed violence reduction and SALW control interventions. The Albania project was the first time that community-based policing in direct support of armed violence reduction and SALW control activities had been examined; this 2nd Edition reflects lessons identified from that work.

Community-based policing is increasingly being recognised as the most appropriate philosophical foundation for democratic policing. It is also recognised as an approach to policing that meets many of the post-conflict safety and security challenges. It is, however, important to bear in mind that community-based policing is not a one-off effort, but a long-term strategic approach, and as such it needs to be implemented in a sustainable and systematic way. This approach is based on respect for human rights, accountability, and the need for effective police operations to be conducted in partnership with the recipient communities.

Saferworld police consultants, who have had significant experience of community-based policing projects, conducted the research for the initial study and additional support was provided to SEESAC by the OSCE Mission to Serbia. The research drew on consultation with various agencies within Albania, FYR Macedonia and Serbia, together with the experiences of other international organisations. The final result is this updated study, which recommends the principles and philosophy of community-based policing in support of SALW interventions within wider Security Sector Reform activities. It is now available on the SEESAC website.
(www.seesac.org), and the Serbian version will shortly also be available to download from the SEESAC website.

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