

AR/050

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SEESAC ACTIVITY REPORT – AR 50

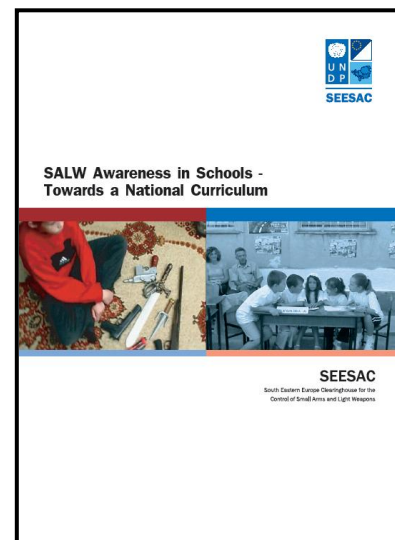
SALW AWARENESS IN SCHOOLS – TOWARDS A NATIONAL CURRICULUM

SEESAC FUNCTIONAL AREA	FA 3 - Management Information FA 4 - SALW Awareness and Communications Strategy
SEESAC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY	SG 3 - Information Management and Exchange Activities SG 8 - Research Activities

As part of our continuing efforts to raise awareness of the risks of SALW misuse among the most vulnerable groups, SEESAC commissioned this study report, with input from the UNDP SACIM Project, to develop guidelines for the inclusion of SALW Awareness in national school curricula throughout the region.

Being naturally curious, children form a particular high-risk group exposed to the negative impacts of SALW misuse and uncontrolled proliferation. For most children the dominant sources of information about SALW are television, movies and video games that often portray SALW in a misleading or glamorous way. What children are not routinely exposed to are the tragic consequences of SALW misuse in real life. Therefore it is important to talk with them about the differences between guns and violence in media and games, and the way guns affect people in real life.

Any SALW Risk Education curriculum must take these factors into account and provide children with the knowledge attitudes and behaviours they need to be safe if they come contact with SALW.



To education authorities in South Eastern Europe, building SALW modules into the national curriculum would mean:

- Acting at the national level to implement commitments under the 2001 Stability Pact Regional Implementation Plan on SALW, including their commitment to ‘continued tangible progress’ in public awareness;
- Acting to pre-empt tragic casualties involving children by offering sound risk education to every child; and
- Acting to reduce future violent and criminal behaviour by educating children throughout their school life on the negative impact of weapons on societies in peacetime and during and after conflict.

The report includes guidelines on:

- Planning SALW Awareness in Schools

- Assessing capacities and co-ordinating activities
- Research (Casualty and crime data; Knowledge Attitudes and Practices; quantitative and qualitative research)

- ❑ Planning a Strategy for Implementation

- ❑ Contents of a National Curriculum
 - Core Messages
 - Learning outcomes
 - Reinforcing learning and outcomes

- ❑ Evaluation

Finally the report also includes information on:

- ❑ SALW glossary and definitions;
- ❑ Schools SALW Awareness experience in SEE organisations;
- ❑ Web resources;
- ❑ Curriculum design project process;
- ❑ Sample teaching techniques; and
- ❑ Evaluation of teaching techniques.

SEESAC hopes these guidelines will prove to be a valuable resource for the creation or adaptation of National Curricula for the inclusion of SALW Awareness in Schools. The study report can be downloaded from the SEESAC website at http://www.seesac.org/reports/st_reports.htm, or a hard copy ordered from SEESAC. For more information on this report and other SEESAC study reports contact SEESAC (info@seesac.org or Tel: (+381) (11) 344 6353).



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