



AR/095

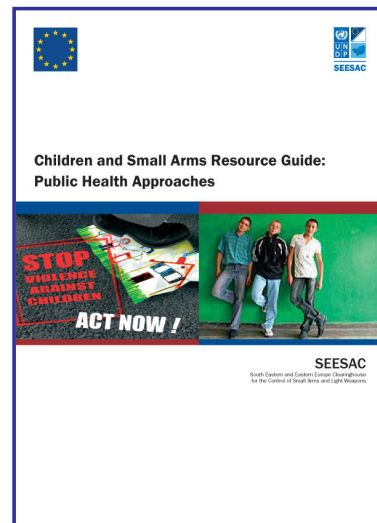
30 March 2007

SEESAC ACTIVITY REPORT – AR/095 LITERATURE REVIEWS RELATING TO CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SMALL ARMS

SEESAC FUNCTIONAL AREA	FA 4 - SALW Awareness and Communications Strategy
SEESAC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY	OA 3 - Information Management and Exchange Activities OA 7 - Training and Research

In March 2006 SEESAC commissioned an Education Consultant to determine the need for a school curriculum on small arms throughout the Western Balkan countries through consultation with relevant stakeholders; a review of available literature on the subject of small arms, children and youth and examination of evaluation reports from previous risk education projects conducted in South Eastern Europe (SEE).

The consultancy concluded that there is no evidence to support the need for a school curriculum, arguing that 'small arms risk education' programmes in schools lack educational validity and are not particularly effective. The consultancy also found that there is a lack of analysis of the available knowledge on children and risk-taking, and consequently undertook a review of psychological and paediatric literature on the subject. This resulted in four distinct but inter-related literature reviews, as well as a compilation of websites, which should be consulted in conjunction with the 'Consultancy Report: Children, Education and Small Arms'.



The Literature Reviews are divided into four subjects:

- Children and Risk-Taking: Implications for Education on Small Arms;
- 'Gun Safety' Education Programmes;
- Safety Education: Implications for Education on Small Arms; and
- Professional Issues Relevant to Children and Small Arms.

The reviews on the subject of children, safety and risk were deemed necessary since programmes on education and small arms have already been undertaken but have not been based on sound educational and psychological research, despite there being quite significant literature on this subject. The aim of these Literature Reviews is therefore to make information easily accessible for reference of anyone planning to undertake activities in this area.

The 'Literature Review: Professional Issues Relevant to Children and Small Arms' was undertaken because the Consultant found a disturbing lack of knowledge of child development and children's rights among many staff developing and implementing research and programmes with children. This Literature Review provides a list of material and resources with which anyone working with children should be familiar.

The Literature Reviews: 'Children and Risk-Taking: Implications for Education on Small Arms'; 'Gun Safety' Education Programmes'; 'Safety Education: Implications for Education on Small Arms' and 'Professional Issues Relevant to Children and Small Arms' are now available on the Education and Small Arms section of the SEESAC website <http://www.seesac.org>. For more information please contact SEESAC SALW Awareness Officer, Ciara Loughney: ciara.loughney@undp.org.



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