



# CONTRIBUTION BY REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

## Roadmap

for a sustainable solution the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), their ammunition and explosives in the Western Balkans<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> *Disclaimer: This report has been prepared by SEESAC for the purpose of collecting information regarding the ongoing projects and activities contributing to small arms and light weapons (SALW) control in the Western Balkans and to be distributed during the 14<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination Meeting that will be held on 9-10 December 2025, in Tirana, Albania.*

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<sup>2</sup> For the United Nations Development Programme, references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). For the European Union, this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

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# INTRODUCTION

The following inputs received from international and regional partners have been collected for the purpose of sharing information regarding projects and activities contributing to small arms and light weapons (SALW) control in the implementation of the Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap, covering the period from the start of the project to October 2025. According to the inputs received, 37 projects are currently under implementation.

- As of 31 October 2025, 28 fully funded and 9 partially funded projects are under implementation implemented;
- Fully funded projects that are currently under implementation amount to approximately EUR 30,02 mln, while partially funded projects amount to approximately EUR 16,4 mln.<sup>3</sup>
- The total number of projects supported by the [UN's Multi-Partner Trust Fund](#) reached 25, at a cumulative value of USD 30,02 million. Out of these, 9 projects of a value of USD 15.41 million are under implementation until the end of 2026.
- The amount of funds granted from 2018 until 31 October 2025 for projects directly contributing to the Roadmap is estimated approximately over EUR 91.5 mln.
- Since 2018, 20 implementing partners have supported the authorities in the implementation of the Roadmap.
- In terms of contributions by projects currently under implementation to each goal of the Roadmap, in brief:
  - 6 projects are contributing to the implementation of Goal 1,
  - 12 projects are contributing to the implementation of Goal 2,
  - 26 projects are contributing to the implementation of Goal 3,
  - 13 projects are contributing to the implementation of Goal 4,
  - 14 projects are contributing to the implementation of Goal 5.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Figures are based on voluntary information provided by international organizations in advance of the 14<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination meeting.

<sup>4</sup> To be noted that one project can contribute to more than one Roadmap Goal.

## FULLY FUNDED PROJECTS

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	BAFA (Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control)
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	EU Council Decision 2025/208/CFSP on the Promotion of Effective Arms Export Controls (COARM VII) <sup>5</sup>  European External Action Service, Directorate for Security Policy and Conflict Prevention,  Ms. Sandra Raca, Head of Division 225 – Outreach Projects/Policy, E-mail: <a href="mailto:Sandra.Raca@bafa.bund.de">Sandra.Raca@bafa.bund.de</a>
PROJECT DURATION	March 2025 – February 2028
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	According to Art. 6 of the Annex of the Council Decision 2025/208/CFSP; Among others: South East Europe (Albania, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia)
DONOR	European Union, co-financed by the German Federal Foreign Office and BAFA
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 2,338,913
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting effective controls on arms export by third countries.</li> <li>• Supporting efforts at jurisdiction and regional level to render trade in conventional weapons more responsible and transparent, and to mitigate the risk of the diversion of arms to unauthorized users through the transfer of expertise.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goals 1 and 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete and regularly review the legal framework to regulate production and trade as well as counter illegal trade of arms, ammunition, dual-use goods and military equipment in line with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations.</li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> This project is excluded from the total reported funding amount because its beneficiaries extend beyond those of the Roadmap.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regularly exchange good practices with a specific focus on harmonization of the legal framework with the EU Regulatory framework and other international obligations.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Substantially strengthen risk analysis systems, control, monitoring and prevention of diversion from legal trade through improved capacities, procedures and transparency.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint Conference for EU Candidate jurisdictions in Belgrade, Serbia, May 2025.</li> <li><b>Remote Legal Review of the Albanian “Law on State, International Transfer Control of Military Goods and Dual-Use Items and Technologies”.</b></li> <li>Workshop for Training Personnel at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations in Bosnia and Herzegovina on Arms Export Controls, September 2025.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Joint Conference for EU Candidate jurisdictions was successfully organised.</li> <li>Workshop for Training Personnel at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations in Bosnia and Herzegovina on Arms Export Controls, September 2025.</li> <li><b>Provided first round of expert comments on Albanian “Law on State, International Transfer Control of Military Goods and Dual-Use Items and Technologies”</b></li> <li>Awareness and understanding of EU policies in the field of conventional arms exports in particular the Common Position 2008/944/CFSP was increased and countries were supported in aligning their legislation with the Common Position 2008/944/CFSP.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	N/A

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	European Multidisciplinary Platform Against Criminal Threats (EMPACT) Project
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<p>EU Policy Cycle 2022-25 against organized and serious crime</p> <p><i>Strategic goal 8:</i> Cooperation with non-EU partners (non – EU countries, international organisations and partners).</p> <p><i>Operational action 8.1 OAP 2022:</i> Cooperation with the South-East Europe: Western Balkans, Moldova and Ukraine.</p> <p>Activity contact point: Mr. Carlos del Moral Tomlinson, Action Leader Operational Action 8.1. Empact Firearms, JAD SEE Coordinator, Guardia Civil,  E-mail: <a href="mailto:carlostimlinson@guardiacivil.es">carlostimlinson@guardiacivil.es</a>  EMPACT email: <a href="mailto:firearms@guardiacivil.org">firearms@guardiacivil.org</a></p>
PROJECT DURATION	2021-2025
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Bulgaria, Croatia, Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Estonia, France, Hungary, Luxembourg, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Slovenia, The Netherlands, The United Kingdom, Switzerland, Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia.
DONOR	European Union, lead by Spain
FUNDING AMOUNT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EUR 300,000 EMPACT FIREARMS high-value grant.</li> <li>• EUR 3,000 to 60,000 under specific operational request. Operational funding is supported by the Low Value Grant and Easter Partnership, the latter of funds is exclusively aimed at Eastern European countries.</li> <li>• From 2025: ISF FORTIFY (EUR 3.000.000)</li> </ul>
FUNDING GAPS	Funds preassigned to activities identified at the beginning of the projects. Low level of flexibility to reallocate HVG and ISF funds.
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<p>The project aims to combat firearms trafficking by implementing various Operational Actions outlined in the 2024-2025 Operational Action Plan. These actions address identified needs within jurisdictions, EU Member States, and international partners, including SEESAC. The operational actions have a comprehensive approach from the operational and strategic response to the external dimension, capacity building, innovation and prevention, by developing activities addressed by the following goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminal intelligence picture;</li> <li>• Investigations and judicial response, with a specific focus on high-risk criminal networks (HRCN) and key individuals;</li> <li>• Coordinated controls and operations targeting the online and offline trade in illicit goods &amp; services;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criminal finances, money laundering and asset recovery;</li> <li>• Document fraud;</li> <li>• Capacity building through training, networking and innovation;</li> <li>• Prevention and harm reduction, assistance to victims, awareness raising;</li> <li>• External dimension: cooperation with non-EU partners;</li> <li>• Administrative approach.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> <li>• Improve inter-institutional cooperation at operational level on intelligence sharing, including the provision of systematic and timely feedback.</li> <li>• Strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and platforms to counter misuse, illicit manufacturing, possession and trafficking of WAE.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OSCE Coordination meeting of international partners in support of SALW control efforts in Ukraine, February 2025, online.</li> <li>• SEE-JAD 2025 Preparatory meeting, February 2025, online.</li> <li>• SEESAC Regional Steering Group. Meeting on SALW, March 2025, online.</li> <li>• COM - 3rd meeting on the state of play and way forward on the establishment of National Firearms Focal Points and the standardisation of data collection on firearms at EU level, March 2025, Brussels (Belgium).</li> <li>• European Firearms Experts Steering Committee and Plenary Meeting (EFE), April 2025, Warsaw (Poland).</li> <li>• FORTIFY Kick-off meeting, April 2025, Madrid (Spain).</li> <li>• OSCE - Expert Discussion "Joint Measures to Counter Illicit Trafficking of Weapons, Ammunition and Explosives (WAE) in Ukraine", April 2025, online.</li> <li>• CEPOL – Training National Firearms Focal Points, May 2025, Lisboa (Portugal)</li> <li>• CONVERSUS-ARMSTRONG Meeting, May 2025, Madrid (Spain).</li> <li>• 13th Meeting of the UE support hub for internal security and border management in Moldova, June 2025, Chisinau (Moldova).</li> <li>• SEE-JAD 2025 Planning meeting – intelligence and operational phase, June 2025, online</li> <li>• SEE-JAD 2025 Coordination meeting, July 2025, Tirana (Albania).</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EMPACT Firearms fine-tuning meeting, September 2025, The Hague (Netherlands).</li> <li>• SEE-JAD intelligence phase and preparatory meeting, September 2025, Warsaw (Poland).</li> <li>• FORTIFY - Expert Meeting on “Small Arms and Light Weapons Control in Different Stages of the Conflict Cycle – Lessons Learned and Good Practices from South-Eastern and Eastern Europe”, October 2025, Vienna (Austria).</li> <li>• FRONTEX-CEPOL-EMPACT Industry days, October 2025, Zagreb (Croatia).</li> <li>• SEE-JAD 2025 Coordination meeting, October 2025, online.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rotation of Driver in EMPACT Firearms. Loss of expertise.</li> <li>• Reduced commitment of JAD SEE beneficiaries, which led to a postponement of the JAD SEE 2025 to Q1 2026.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivery of the FRONTEX-CEPOL-EMPACT Industry days, October 2025, Zagreb (Croatia).</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in the 12<sup>th</sup> Local coordination meeting (Serbia), December 2025, online;</li> <li>• Participation in the 14<sup>th</sup> Regional Coordination Meeting of the Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap, December 2025, Tirana (Albania).</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	European Border and Coast Guard Agency (FRONTEX)
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<p>EMPACT FIA 2024 - OA 6.3 (led by Frontex)</p> <p>Further development of the firearms detection activities, updates, translations and implementation of the Handbook on Firearms for LEA, Border Guards and Customs in EU, WB and international version, with the implementation of the Firearms Course and Train the Trainer sessions to facilitate constant use and implementation of the Handbook on Firearms among respective participating countries. Promotion of the handbook application in all relevant OA's.</p> <p>Operationalisation of the addendum recommendations on the impact of RU aggression on UA on firearms trafficking. Enhancing and strengthening capabilities in detecting and accessing sophisticated vehicle concealments used in trafficking illicit goods (weapons/drugs/money).</p>

	Contact point: Mr. Adam Piotrowski, Action Leader Operational Action 8.5. Empact Firearms, FRONTEX, E-mail: <a href="mailto:Adam.Piotrowski@frontex.europa.eu">Adam.Piotrowski@frontex.europa.eu</a>
PROJECT DURATION	2022- ongoing
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	WB jurisdictions, EUBAM MD/UA, Moldova, Ukraine, EU Member States
DONOR	European Union
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	N/A
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collection of materials from partners on firearms and ammunition trafficking seizures for possible updates of the WB version of the handbook.</li> <li>• Organization of workshops concentrated upon developing capacity building activities linked to the regional Western Balkan version of the Handbook on firearms, such as firearms detection course and Train the Trainer to be applied at the BCP levels.</li> <li>• Translation and distribution of the Western Balkans version of the handbook in the respective languages.</li> <li>• To explore possibilities for further updates/versions of the Handbook on Firearms for Border Guards and Customs especially in relation to specific modus operandi in cooperation with SEESAC, Border Police forces and Customs authorities and based on the results of the operations implemented under EMPACT Firearms and emerging threats from border perspective as well as based on regular contributions from Border and Customs authorities.</li> <li>• Using and testing the Handbook in operational actions, including EMPACT Firearms Priority related in order to apply in the field and gather feedback for further possible developments.</li> <li>• Collection of the data related to the firearms trafficking cases in WB via WB-RAN created by Frontex.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 3: Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.

KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train the Trainer Advanced Concealment Workshop, participated by Albania, Serbia, Montenegro and North Macedonia, 23-25 October 2025.</li> <li>• Industry Days on technological solutions in CBC counteraction, participated by Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Serbia, 07-09 October 2025 in Zagreb, Croatia.</li> <li>• The JAD has been postponed to March 2026.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The regional WB version of the Handbook on Firearms for Border Guards and Customs was developed in coordination with SEESAC and distributed to the WBs' jurisdictions.</li> <li>• Better understanding and information exchange on challenges in countering firearms trafficking (including impact and the potential threat of the weapons trafficking from Ukraine and the nexus between firearms trafficking, illicit possession and migrant smuggling in the Western Balkans)</li> <li>• The knowledge of law enforcement officers from the Western Balkans was strengthened through the Firearms Detection Courses (FDC) organized with SEESAC in 2024.</li> <li>• Workshops on Vehicle Concealments held in Brussels, 24-25 September 2024.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	Insufficient human resources to implement further dedicated activities for WB, e.g. Firearms Detection Courses.
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	European Border and Coast Guard Agency (FRONTEX)
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	IPA III Regional Programme: EU Regional Support to strengthen border security capacities in the Western Balkans <sup>6</sup>  Contact point: Mr. Adam Piotrowski, Action Leader Operational Action 8.5. Empact Firearms, FRONTEX, E-mail: <a href="mailto:Adam.Piotrowski@frontex.europa.eu">Adam.Piotrowski@frontex.europa.eu</a>
PROJECT DURATION	2023 - 2026
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Western Balkans jurisdictions

<sup>6</sup> This project is excluded from the total reported funding amount because it is not exclusively related to SALW.

DONOR	European Union
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 7,000,000
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alignment of Western Balkans Integrated Border Management (IBM) strategies with European Integrated Border Management (EIBM);</li> <li>• Operationalization of Status Agreements;</li> <li>• Developing National Coordination Centers (NCCs) in the context of EUROSUR;</li> <li>• Technical component – delivery of technical equipment for border checks and for border surveillance, and for NCCs.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 3: Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project activity that is directly connected with firearms: Promotion of the regional Handbook on Firearms for Border Guards and Customs Officers in the Western Balkans.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The regional Handbook on Firearms for Border Guards and Customs Officers in the Western Balkans was promoted.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priority setting among partners.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (EUROPOL)
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Analysis Project Weapons&Explosives
PROJECT DURATION	N/A
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	EU member states and operational partners (In Western Balkans BA, SR, AL, MK, ME, MD and UA)
DONOR	European Union
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	N/A
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	To support its Member States in preventing and combating all forms of serious international and organised crime, cybercrime and terrorism
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 2 and 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that every weapon recovered or seized is traced (domestically and/or internationally)</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD (January – end October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• February 2025: <a href="#">Action day</a> supported by Europol after an SI investigation into a criminal network with WB roots responsible for violent crime, drug trafficking and weapon trafficking</li> <li>• March 2025: <a href="#">Action day</a> supported by Europol after a long lasting FR investigation into the supply of assault rifles and handgrenades from WB sources</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April 2025: contribution to the SEESAC Regional Meeting of Criminal Police Representatives in Tirana (AL) focusing on Alarms and Signal Weapons (ASW's)</li> <li>• From May 2025 – (ongoing): Support by Europol to SE investigation OP AVATAR/ JIT DAPPLE into the supply of handgrenades from WB sources (BA) to SE, NL, FR, DE</li> <li>• September 2025: start of OP PRIA with NL and AL on pyrotechnics supply from AL</li> <li>• September 2025: Providing training to Montenegrin investigators on firearms trafficking (Podgorica, organised by CEPOL)</li> <li>• Oktober 2025 : providing training to Serbian forensic (weapon) investigators on TRAFFIC and EVOFINDER and making assessment of the quality and use of the equipment funded by EU MS FR and NL.</li> <li>• SEE JAD 2025: support by Europol to the South East European Joint Action Days 2025 intelligence phase and preparations (operational phase postponed to March 2026).</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seizures of weapons and handgrenades in operational case supported by Europol.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of contributions from EU MS on seizures and investigations into the supply of weapons&amp;explosives from WB to EU;</li> <li>• Lack of contributions from WB jurisdictions on seizures and investigations into the supply of weapons&amp;explosives from WB to EU.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 04/12/2025: Annual EUROPOL Analysis Project Weapons&amp;Explosives meeting for all EU MS and operational partners in Western Balkans.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Training (CEPOL) <sup>7</sup>
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Western Balkans Partnership Against Crime and Terrorism - WB PACT II Contact point: Mr. Gheorghe Despa, E-mail: <a href="mailto:gheorghe.despa@cepol.europa.eu">gheorghe.despa@cepol.europa.eu</a>
PROJECT DURATION	01 April 2024 – 31 March 2028

<sup>7</sup> This project is excluded from the total reported funding amount because it is not exclusively related to SALW.

PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia
DONOR	European Union, represented by the European Commission
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 6,000,000
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<p>The action has two specific objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The first objective is to strengthen operational cooperation within the Western Balkans and between the region and the EU on organised crime and terrorism using the expertise of the Justice and Home Affairs Agencies.</li> <li>• The second objective is to enhance the Western Balkans' strategic cooperation and the use of coherent approaches in addressing challenges related to organised crime and terrorism.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A training on firearms trafficking in Podgorica, Montenegro, from 15–19 September 2025, in partnership with the Ministry of Interior of Serbia.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved investigations into poly-criminal organised crime groups by strengthening intelligence analysis, international cooperation, and police-prosecutors coordination.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	N/A

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	GIZ, Italian Ministry of Interior, Civipol, Center for International Legal Cooperation (CILC) <sup>8</sup>
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	EU Support to strengthen the fight against Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Human Beings in the Western Balkans (EU4FAST); Contact point: Mr. Oliver Janser, GIZ Project Manager, E-mail: <a href="mailto:oliver.janser@giz.de">oliver.janser@giz.de</a>
PROJECT DURATION	02/06/2023 - 31/05/2027
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Western Balkan Ministries of Interior, Ministry of Security, Ministries of Human Rights and Refugees, Ministries of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs, Public Prosecution offices, Police agencies, Financial Intelligence Units, Local and international NGO's, social services
DONOR	EU, BMZ, Italian Ministry of Interior, Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 39,303,022
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	The Overall objective of the action is to strengthen the rule of law in the Western Balkans. The specific objective of the action is to improve the conditions for preventing and combatting migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings in the Western Balkans.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> <li>• Strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and platforms to counter misuse, illicit manufacturing, possession and trafficking of WAE.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in the Planning Meeting for the Joint Action Day South East Europe (JAD SEE) 2025, focused on the Intelligence and Operational Phase (OA 8.1 &amp; 3.1 EMPACT FIA) on 10-11 June in Tirana.</li> </ul>

<sup>8</sup> This project is excluded from the total reported funding amount because it is not exclusively related to SALW.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued supporting EUROPOL/EMSC, and Western Balkan jurisdictions in implementing OTF Zebra.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective countering of armed smuggling groups from Afghanistan, EUROPOL established the Operational Task Force Zebra (OTF Zebra). This was the result of discussions and agreements made during several meetings supported by EU4FAST.</li> <li>EU4FAST was co-action leader of the Joint Action Day South-East Europe (JAD SEE) 2024. As a result of the massive operation, 796 individuals were arrested, 316 investigations initiated and 442 weapons seized. Within this operation, performed under the motto “Uniting Forces Against Organised Crime”, 31,109 officers on duty performed 655,914 checks on entities, which included 516,153 persons, 152,284 vehicles, 4,985 postal packages and 1,181 premises.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	EU4FAST is continuing the support to increase the active and meaningful participation of WB partners in EMPACT and, where possible, to encourage/realise co-leadership of WB partners of OAs under the five OAPs, including FIA, particularly important in preparation for the upcoming new EMPACT cycle.

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	ITF Enhancing Human Security
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) support in Albania <i>Mr. Blaž Mihelič, Project Manager, E-mail: <a href="mailto:Blaz.Mihelic@itf.si">Blaz.Mihelic@itf.si</a></i> <i>Ms. Nataša Uršič, Project Manager, E-mail: <a href="mailto:Natasa.Ursic@itf.si">Natasa.Ursic@itf.si</a></i>
PROJECT DURATION	1 September 2024 - 30 June 2027

PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministry of Interior of Albania
DONOR	United States of America
FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1,232,239
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	The primary objective of the project is to improve capacity of Ministry of Interior (MOI) to manage and store conventional weapons and ammunition. Construction of storage facility.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 5
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure safe and secure SALW, ammunition and explosive storage facilities based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation Phase;</li> <li>• The MoU has been prepared and signed;</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selection of the best bidder for the preparation of detailed technical project documentation/project design for construction of the facility for temporary storage of collected SALW in Albania</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contracting;</li> <li>• Field visit;</li> <li>• Call for Offers for the construction of the facility for temporary storage of collected SALW.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	ITF Enhancing Human Security
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Weapons stockpile management in Serbia <i>Mr. Blaž Mihelič</i> , Project Manager, e-mail: <a href="mailto:blaz.mihelic@itf.si">blaz.mihelic@itf.si</a> and Mr. Andrej Golob, e-mail: <a href="mailto:andrej.golob@itf.si">andrej.golob@itf.si</a>
PROJECT DURATION	2025-2027
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministry of Interior of Serbia
DONOR	United States of America
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1,456,115
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	Improve physical infrastructure and management systems of evidence rooms, installing necessary equipment and introducing improvements in general security protocols.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 5
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Ensure safe and secure SALW, ammunition and explosive storage facilities based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD (October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation phase,</li> <li>• ITF-MoI Serbia MoU is awaiting signature,</li> <li>• Site visits and technical specifications are being prepared.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	N/A
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of site visits,</li> <li>• Elaboration of technical specifications for individual storage rooms requirements.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	NATO
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Upgrade of Arms Rooms of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina Ms. Renata Zaleska, Programme Manager for DCB BiH, E-mail: <a href="mailto:zaleska.renata@hq.nato.int">zaleska.renata@hq.nato.int</a> Mr. Nicholas Minogue, Officer, ADN/PASP, NATO IS, E-mail: <a href="mailto:minogue.nicholas@hq.nato.int">minogue.nicholas@hq.nato.int</a>
PROJECT DURATION	TBD
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Bosnia and Herzegovina: Ministry of Defence, Armed Forces
DONOR	NATO (Allied nations through DCB Trust Fund contributions)
PROJECT FUNDING AMOUNT	Total amount: TBD Preliminary Phase: EUR 46,525
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist the BiH MoD and AF in upgrading the security of identified Armed Forces units' arms rooms up to international standards.</li> <li>• Decrease the risk of loss and diversion of SALW and their ammunition in coordination with the Ammunition, Weapons and Explosives Master Plan in Bosnia and Herzegovina.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal 5</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure safe and secure SALW, ammunition and explosive storage facilities based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January -end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finalisation of project proposal based on the findings of the Preliminary Phase (Q4).</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	N/A
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Submission of NATO DCB project proposal to donors for implementation to commence Q2 2026.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	NATO
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Developing institutional capabilities for good governance, accountability and prevention of corruption in the process of life cycle management of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition: Lessons learned and good practices from Bosnia and Herzegovina.  Dr. Nadja Milanova, E-mail: <a href="mailto:milanova.nadja@hq.nato.int">milanova.nadja@hq.nato.int</a>
PROJECT DURATION	2022-2025
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry of Defence, Jurisdictions in the South Eastern Europe
DONOR	Switzerland (earmarked funding within the NATO BI Trust Fund)
PROJECT FUNDING AMOUNT	Estimated EUR 60,000
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draw upon the lessons learned from Bosnia and Herzegovina in the area of accountability and life cycle management of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition and develop a methodology to analyse good governance risks in this area and possible solutions.</li> <li>• Produce an actionable and practical intervention toolkit in the form of a handbook for institutionalising good practices of DIB/AC to include inter alia tailored “knowledge materials” on BI, good governance and arms control for the life cycle management of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition as one of the functional area across the DIB/AC spectrum.</li> <li>• Build capabilities for strengthening accountability and good governance in the process of life cycle management of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goals 4 and 5</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness among licensed private and legal entities (including arms, ammunition and explosive producers, brokers, traders, transport companies, and collectors) about the danger of misuse, illicit proliferation and risks of diversion of arms, ammunition and explosives.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 5:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen the capacities of relevant institutions of the jurisdictions to implement LCM of SALW and ammunition.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work on the finalization of the draft handbook.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	N/A
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL END 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work on the finalization of the draft handbook</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Physical Security and Stockpile Management/SALW/ammunition capacity enhancement Project
PROJECT DURATION	From 2020 onward
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Jurisdictions of the region (RACVIAC jurisdictions, beneficiaries of the Roadmap)
DONOR	RACVIAC, in-kind contributions from ITF, UNODA, AMAT
FUNDING AMOUNT	N/A
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To keep a focus on the life cycle management of SALW and ammunition issue as a continuation of capacity building in PSSM of armed forces in the region through the RASR process. The Roadmap projects/activities due to the need to address arms trafficking and illicit possession of firearms have a larger focus on law enforcement than armed forces, therefore the activity will aim to target armed forces throughout the region in further improving the capacities related in particular to stockpile security and safety, including ammunition surveillance. At least one annual (educational) event is to be devoted to this particular aspect in the future (from 2020 ongoing) with the aim of keeping regional cooperation focused on this specific – military – side of the issue. A RACVIAC PSSM activity would be able to contribute filling these capacity gaps in the future in this way contributing to the Roadmap implementation as well.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 5
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen the capacities of relevant institutions of the jurisdictions to implement LCM of SALW and ammunition.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One workshop jointly organized with SEESAC, UNODA and GICHD AMAT.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint workshop with UNODA to identify key priorities for implementing the UN Programme of Action (PoA) and the International Tracing Instrument (ITI), especially in light of the outcomes of the Fourth Review Conference, September 2024.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacities of the armed forces in charge for PSSM were increased through dedicated workshops.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize the Arms Control Symposium, 10-13 November 2025</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	Secretariat of the Police Cooperation Convention of Southeast Europe (PCC SEE)
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Practical Implementation of the PCC SEE - Support in the deployment of officers among Contracting Parties pursuant to Article 26 PCC SEE for the purpose of criminal investigations  Ms. Katarina Lednik: E-mail: <a href="mailto:k.lednik@dcaf.ch">k.lednik@dcaf.ch</a>
PROJECT DURATION	This is a <u>permanent</u> offer of the PCC SEE Secretariat for an indefinite period.
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	12 Contracting Parties to the PCC SEE, namely: Albania, Austria, BiH, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia
DONOR	PCC SEE Secretariat core budget.
FUNDING AMOUNT	N/A
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	None
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To facilitate any phase of the ongoing criminal investigation in the beneficiary by deploying law enforcement officers from one beneficiary to the territory of another for a specified period of time in order to provide on-site expertise and operational support.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and platforms to counter misuse, illicit manufacturing, possession and trafficking of WAE.
ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The PCC SEE Secretariat has facilitated deployments of criminal investigators, however none were related to investigations in illicit manufacturing, possession, or trafficking of WAE.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through the criminal investigations supported over the years against different forms of cross-border crime, charges were brought against multiple individuals in the SEE region. At least ten suspects were members of a criminal organisation engaged in cocaine trafficking, the smuggling of firearms, ammunition and explosives, and human smuggling. Several firearms and quantities of ammunition were seized during the investigative actions.</li> </ul>

	Note: The PCC SEE Secretariat does not collect or store operational data. Information on case outcomes is available only when voluntarily shared by the beneficiary authorities.
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The deployment of officers is supported, upon request, by the beneficiary jurisdictions.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	SEESAC
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<i>Support for SEESAC Disarmament and Arms Control Activities in South East Europe</i> Ms. Bojana Balon, Head of SEESAC, E-mail: <a href="mailto:bojana.balon@undp.org">bojana.balon@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	2024-2027
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministries of Interior, Police Services, Ministries of Economy, Customs Administrations, Prosecution Offices, and other relevant institutions in South East Europe
DONOR	European Union - <a href="#">EU Council Decision 2024/3006</a>
FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 3,999,920
FUNDING GAPS	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<p>The project is contributing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further development of a legislative and regulatory framework on SALW, firearms, and explosives, and its harmonisation with the EU framework and standardisation in South-East Europe;</li> <li>• Capacity building of customs authorities, border police and criminal police services of the Western Balkans to counter illicit trafficking and possession of firearms;</li> <li>• Continuation of evidence-based policy-making on SALW control, addressing the needs of both men and women;</li> <li>• Strengthened regional cooperation, knowledge exchange and information-sharing on SALW control through continued regional meetings of SALW Commissions and SEEFEN;</li> <li>• Comprehensive support for capacity building of border police, criminal police services, and customs authorities of the Western Balkans</li> <li>• Further enhancement of capacities for Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM).</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 1 to 5
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete and regularly review the legal framework to regulate production, acquisition and possession for civil use as well as counter trafficking and misuse of weapons and ammunition in line with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete and regularly review the legal framework to regulate production and possession for civil use and counter trafficking and misuse of explosives (including pyrotechnics) and explosive precursors in line with the EU regulatory framework</li> <li>• Complete and regularly review the legal framework to regulate production and trade as well as counter illegal trade of arms, ammunition, dual-use goods and military equipment in line with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop/align SALW strategies and/or the Action Plans with the Roadmap.</li> <li>• Fully integrate gender and age concerns in arms control policies and prioritize meaningful participation of women in policymaking.</li> <li>• Standardize and institutionalize recordkeeping and data collection on weapons, ammunition and explosives, disaggregated by sex and age.</li> <li>• Strengthen planning, coordination and monitoring functions of SALW Commissions to ensure effective policies on arms control.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substantially strengthen risk analysis systems, control, monitoring and prevention of diversion from legal trade through improved capacities, procedures and transparency.</li> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> <li>• Strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and platforms to counter misuse, illicit manufacturing, possession and trafficking of WAE.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness to reduce the misuse of firearms in violence against women and girls, domestic violence and other forms of GBV, as well as awareness among young men on the dangers of misuse of weapons and explosives and their engagement through targeted programs.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematically decrease surplus stockpile of SALW, ammunition and explosives through destruction in an environmentally benign manner and through other means.</li> <li>• Ensure safe and secure SALW, ammunition and explosive storage facilities based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.</li> </ul>
<p>ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)</p>	<p><b>Facilitation of regional cooperation and support for evidence-based policymaking on SALW control, thus further contributing to the reduction of the threat of illicit proliferation of SALW</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Operational cooperation on combatting illicit arms trafficking in South East and East Europe</u> was facilitated through the South East Europe Firearms Experts Network:</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 22<sup>nd</sup> SEEFEN Regional Meeting was organized (Skopje, 14-15 October 2025) gathering representatives from investigative, prosecutorial, border police, customs authorities, and ballistic experts including from the six Western Balkans jurisdictions, alongside international partners.</li> <li>• <u>Cooperation on SALW control at the strategic level in South East Europe facilitated through the regional platform of SALW Commissions:</u> The 21<sup>st</sup> Regional Meeting of SALW Commissions was held (Sarajevo, 10 July 2025), participants from SALW Commissions and relevant institutions of the Western Balkans, and international partners. A delegation from the Republic of Honduras also attended the meeting as part of their study visit to the region.</li> <li>• <u>Evidence-based policymaking and harmonization of SALW control legislation with the EU Acquis.</u></li> <li>• To ensure alignment with the Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap 2030, several jurisdictions were supported in reviewing and updating their strategic documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bosnia and Herzegovina – provided technical and expert support in the development of the new SALW Control Strategy 2025–2030 and Action Plan 2025–2027, including translation and publication of the documents in the three official languages and English.</li> <li>○ Serbia – Reviewed the final draft SALW Control Programme and accompanying Action Plan, upon request of the SALW Coordination Council.</li> <li>○ Albania – Provided expert feedback in reviewing the new SALW Strategy and Action Plan.</li> <li>○ Montenegro – Assisted the SALW Commission in evaluating the current SALW Control Strategy and Action Plan, expiring at the end of 2025.</li> <li>○ North Macedonia – Supported the development of the new Strategy and Action Plan.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• To support the harmonization of firearms, ammunition, and explosives legislation with EU framework, coordinated expert assistance across the region was provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bosnia and Herzegovina – A Workshop on Harmonization of Firearms and Ammunition Legislation with EU legal framework was held (18 March 2025) to support legislative alignment efforts.</li> <li>○ Montenegro – Technical and expert assistance was provided in developing the Law on Weapons and Ammunition, including support to the public debate (Podgorica, 14 February 2025) and the drafting group session (3–5 March 2025).</li> <li>○ North Macedonia – Expert support was delivered for drafting the Law on Explosives (June 2025).</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Monitoring trends</u>: Maintenance of the <u>Armed Violence Monitoring Platform (AVMP)</u> continued, with regular dissemination of <u>SEE Armed Violence Monitors</u>.</li> <li>• <u>Knowledge tools</u></li> <li>• The <u>Regional Report on Arms Exports for 2022</u>, developed by SEESAC in partnership with the authorities in the Western Balkans, was published in January 2025.</li> <li>• Based on the AVMP data, the following knowledge products were prepared, published and disseminated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An infographic on firearm incidents in South East Europe in 2024, highlighting key trends in armed violence in 2024.</li> <li>• Three Regional Quarterly Armed Violence Monitors covering October–December 2024, January–March 2025, and April–June 2025, providing a comprehensive overview of firearm-related incidents and trends.</li> <li>• Three In Focus knowledge products on weapons seizures, firearm incidents in domestic settings, and firearm incidents in criminal contexts in the Western Balkans (2019–2024). The corresponding series was also prepared for South East Europe. All products align with the first phase of the Roadmap implementation and review key trends in region during this period.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <u>Support to SALW Commissions</u></li> <li>• Head of the SALW Commission of Montenegro completed the Communication and Media outreach coaching training (10–14 February 2025), strengthening his capacity for strategic and public communication, essential for the promotion of the SALW Commission’s work.</li> <li>• English language courses for members of Bosnia and Herzegovina’s SALW Coordination Board, including senior leadership, continued to improve regional cooperation and communication.</li> </ul> <p>Support to capacity building of law enforcement and border authorities in preventing and countering illicit arms and explosives trafficking</p> <p><u>Customs administration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Five workshops for the development of SALW-related Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Customs Administrations were conducted in Serbia (1–4 April 2025), North Macedonia (6–9 May 2025), Montenegro (13–14 May 2025 ) Albania (2–5 June 2025) Kosovo (7–10 October 2025). Developed SOPs are under SEESAC’s review before translation and endorsement.</li> <li>• Specialized trainings on the practical implementation of SOPs for the Customs Administration and Border Police were organized in North Macedonia (30 September–3 October 2025) and in Serbia (28-31 October 2025).</li> </ul> <p><u>Criminal police</u></p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional cooperation and exchange were facilitated through the Regional Meeting of Criminal Police Services (Tirana, 8–9 April 2025), bringing together representatives from law enforcement agencies from the Western Balkans, alongside international partners including EUROPOL and the European Firearms Experts Group (EFE).</li> <li>The regional Meeting of Firearms Focal Points (FFPs) was held (Igman, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 29 May 2025), gathering representatives of Firearms Focal Points (FFPs) and ballistic experts from the region to discuss ballistic intelligence and the emerging threat of converted blank-firing weapons.</li> </ul> <p>Improvement of capacities for physical security and stockpile management (PSSM) through infrastructure security upgrades, surplus reduction and training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A total of 381 of SALW was destroyed, with SEESAC support during a ceremony held near Ferizaj/Uroševac in Kosovo (26 September 2025).</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional and interregional cooperation at operational and strategic level was strengthened through two regional meetings (SEEFEN and SALW Commissions) gathering 51 participants each, as well as the study visit of representatives from the Republic of Honduras enhancing coordination and information-sharing.</li> <li>Adoption of BiH’s new Strategy and Action Plan and finalization of SALW Control Strategies and Action Plans in Serbia and Albania.</li> <li>Drafting of legislation advanced in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and North Macedonia.</li> <li>Understanding of the threats related to firearms and transparency increased through the publication of thematic and trends related AVMP reports, as well as the Regional Report on Arms Exports 2022.</li> <li>Institutional capacities of leadership and members of SALW Commissions in various aspects of arms control further strengthened.</li> <li>Drafting of SOPs on firearms for customs administration in Serbia, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, and Kosovo completed. The capacities of border police and customs administration were further boosted in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Regional operational cooperation and information sharing on new trends and threats strengthened through regular regional meetings Criminal Police Services and Firearms Focal Points.</li> </ul> <p>The risk for proliferation of firearms reduced through the destruction of 381 pieces of SALW in Kosovo.</p>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A

ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize 21<sup>st</sup> Regional Meeting of SALW Commissions, Tirana, Albania, 11 December 2025</li> <li>• Provide on-demand support for harmonisation of arms control legislation for relevant amendments regarding EU legislation on arms control and standardisation throughout the SEE region.</li> <li>• Organize the annual Regional Workshop on Harmonization of Legislation in the Field of SALW and Explosives Control with the EU Acquis, 4-5 November 2025, Brussels</li> <li>• Track trends through the Armed Violence Monitoring Platform and regular publishing and dissemination of SEE Armed Violence Monitors.</li> <li>• Organize training for representatives of the Customs Administration on the implementation of SOPs related to SALW control in Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Kosovo.</li> <li>• Submit the final SOPs with the relevant customs administrations for endorsement.</li> </ul>
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ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	SEESAC
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<p><i>Support for SEESAC for the implementation of the Regional Roadmap on combating illicit arms trafficking in the Western Balkans and in support of disarmament and arms control activities in South-East and East Europe</i></p> <p>Ms. Bojana Balon, Head of SEESAC, E-mail: <a href="mailto:bojana.balon@undp.org">bojana.balon@undp.org</a></p>
PROJECT DURATION	19 December 2022 – 19 December 2025
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Western Balkans, Ukraine and Moldova institutions
DONOR	European Union - <a href="#">EU Council Decision 2022/2321</a>
FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 4,006,955

FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW/firearms and their ammunition in the Western Balkans.</li> <li>• Strengthened interregional cooperation, knowledge exchange and information-sharing on arms control.</li> <li>• Strengthened capacities of law enforcement services of Moldova and Ukraine for preventing/ countering illicit trafficking and possession of firearms.</li> <li>• Countering illicit arms trafficking in the Western Balkans, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine through capacity assessments and technical assistance to the law-enforcement and border-police authorities.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 2 and 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of the policy documents on arms control.</li> <li>• Standardize and institutionalize recordkeeping and data collection on weapons, ammunition and explosives, disaggregated by sex and age.</li> <li>• Strengthen planning, coordination and monitoring functions of SALW Commissions to ensure effective policies on arms control.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substantially strengthen risk analysis systems, control, monitoring and prevention of diversion from legal trade through improved capacities, procedures and transparency.</li> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> <li>• Improve inter-institutional cooperation at operational level on intelligence sharing, including the provision of systematic and timely feedback.</li> <li>• Strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and platforms to counter misuse, illicit manufacturing, possession and trafficking of WAE.</li> </ul>
CURRENT ACTIVITIES (January – end of October 2025)	<u>I Coordination of the implementation of the Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW/firearms and their ammunition in the Western Balkans</u>

- The [13<sup>th</sup> round](#) of the local Roadmap coordination meetings took place throughout June 2025.
  - The [13<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination meeting](#) was held on 8-9 July 2025 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
  - The [13<sup>th</sup> regional monitoring report](#) was developed and distributed ahead of the 13<sup>th</sup> regional Roadmap coordination meeting. An [infographic](#), with key progress and concrete results, a [leaflet with the donor and partner support](#) covering the first phase of the Roadmap and three knowledge products covering [weapon seizures](#), [firearm incidents in the criminal context](#), and [firearm incidents in the domestic setting](#) with data from AVMP were also distributed at the meeting.
  - In May 2025, the Secretariat consolidated the **Trust Fund's annual report 2024**, as well as presenting the work of the Trust Fund governance bodies in 2024. The annual report was circulated on 31 May 2025 to all contributors and partners.
  - In 2025, SEESAC facilitated the Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap Multi-Partner Trust Fund's **SC decision-making on six occasions by October 2025**. The Trust Fund's SC convened to decide on the duration of the Trust Fund, review and approve revision of the **governing documents and Terms of Reference** in light of the Roadmap's extension until 2030, as well as to review progress of ongoing projects and decide on new priorities to funding allocations across the region in support of the Roadmap implementation. In line with the SC decision, the Secretariat reached out in April 2025 to SALW Commissions in all Western Balkans jurisdictions with the aim to map priority needs and gaps for support and prepare technical assessment for the SC, thus informing its decision-making.
  - Final review of the Roadmap implementation was initiated with direct support and engagement by the Western Balkans SALW Commissions. The preliminary key findings and recommendations from the review will be presented during the 14<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination meeting.
  - SEESAC initiated the upgrade of the software for the periodic reporting, collection and automatic export of data on the Key Performance Indicators of the Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap to align it with the revised version of the Key Performance Indicators report framework, which emerged from the revised Roadmap.
  - From 23–26 September 2025, SEESAC also supported the SALW Commission in North Macedonia to convene a four-day workshop in Skopje with the aim of evaluating the progress and gaps under the 2022–2024 Strategy and draft the new Strategy and Action Plan for 2026–2030.
- II Contribute to strengthened interregional cooperation, knowledge exchange and information-sharing on arms control

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From 16 to 19 June, SEESAC conducted a technical mission to Honduras to facilitate peer learning, knowledge exchange, and the identification of adaptable practices based on the lessons learned and good practices established through the implementation of the Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap.</li> <li>• Followed this mission, a delegation from the Republic of Honduras participated in Study Visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina from 2–11 July 2025. Besides attending the 13<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination Meeting and 21<sup>st</sup> Regional Meeting of SALW Commissions, the delegation met with the SALW Coordination Board of BiH and key institutions, including the <b>Prosecutor’s Office, State Investigation and Protection Agency, Border Police, Customs Administration, and the Ministries of Interior</b>. Site visits to the <b>Federation Police Directorate’s ballistic laboratory and the Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies</b> were also organized. Also, a meeting was held with two associations of women police officers to exchange experiences on <b>gender equality and women’s leadership in policing</b>.</li> <li>• SEESAC contributed to a Regional Workshop on implementing the ASEAN Declaration on Combating Arms Smuggling organized by GIZ on 6-7 August 2025 informing on best practices from the WB Roadmap implementation.</li> </ul> <p><u>IV Capacity development of law enforcement services including ballistic laboratories and customs services of the Western Balkans for countering illicit trafficking and possession of firearms</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In this period, needs assessment reports on the capacities of the Customs Administrations to counter illicit firearms trafficking were developed, translated, and submitted to the Customs Services of Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, and Albania for endorsement.</li> <li>• The needs assessment reports on capacities of customs administrations in preventing firearms trafficking in Kosovo and North Macedonia were reviewed and endorsed.</li> <li>• The procurement of specialized equipment to strengthen capacities of the Unit for Detection and Dismantling of explosives devices, Ministry of Interior of North Macedonia is being finalized.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of Roadmap implementation was facilitated through five regional coordination meetings, with representatives of SALW Commissions, international and regional organizations, and donors.</li> <li>• Coordination and monitoring of progress at local level was strengthened through five rounds of local Roadmap coordination meetings.</li> <li>• Regular monitoring of progress ensured through five monitoring reports.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The revised text of the Roadmap 2025-2030 was endorsed by the Western Balkans Ministers of Interior during the <a href="#">EU-Western Balkans Ministerial Forum on Justice and Home Affairs</a> on 28-29 October 2024 following an extensive consultation process facilitated by SEESAC.</li> <li>• With SEESAC’s technical support, the Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap Multi-Partner Trust Fund ensured a donor- and jurisdiction-coordinated approach to Roadmap implementation through a diverse set of nine projects implemented by the UNODC and UNDP offices in the region.</li> <li>• In 2025, the Trust Fund received a new contribution from the Netherlands in the amount of EUR 1.5 million and from France in the amount of EUR 100,000, both pending allocation by December 2025. This brings the total value of the Trust Fund to over USD 31 million.</li> <li>• Overall, 25 projects have been funded through the Trust Fund since its establishment in 2019, with a cumulative value of USD 30.02 million.</li> <li>• The Roadmap and its regional approach have been recognized globally as a best practice, inspiring the adoption of two further regional roadmaps: one in the Caribbean in 2020 and, more recently, the Central America and Dominican Republic Roadmap at the beginning of 2025.</li> <li>• Interregional cooperation and sharing of good practices was strengthened through three comprehensive study visits by delegations from the <a href="#">Kyrgyz Republic</a>, the <a href="#">Kingdom of Cambodia</a> and the <a href="#">Republic of Honduras</a> to the Western Balkans. Additionally, this was</li> <li>• enabled through three side events focusing on various aspects on the margins of the <a href="#">Fourth Review Conference (RevCon4) on the UN Programme of Action (PoA)</a> to prevent, combat, and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and its International Tracing Instrument (ITI), which took place from 17 - 28 June 2024 in New York.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> </ul>
PLANNED ACTIVITIES UNTIL END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organize one Regional Roadmap Coordination meeting.</li> <li>• Support the organization of the one round of the local Roadmap coordination meetings.</li> <li>• Develop one Regional Monitoring Report on the progress of implementing the Roadmap.</li> <li>• Continue supporting the activities of the MPTF.</li> <li>• Finalize the final review of the Roadmap.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endorsement of the needs assessment report on customs capacities to counter firearms trafficking by relevant authorities.</li> <li>• Complete the procurement of the ballistic equipment for the Unit for Detection and Dismantling of Explosives Devices of North Macedonia.</li> </ul>
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ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	SEESAC
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Support for Enhancing the Fight Against the Illegal Possession, Misuse and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in the Western Balkans  Bojana Balon, Head of SEESAC, <a href="mailto:bojana.balon@undp.org">bojana.balon@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	1 September 2021 – 31 December 2025
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Kosovo
DONOR	European Union (Supported through IPA II Multi-Country Action programme 2020)
PROJECT FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 4,996,576
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	/
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To strengthen strategic and operational capacity of the WB jurisdictions to conduct firearms investigations and exchange information within the region and with the EU on illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW and their ammunition.</li> <li>• To support the jurisdictions to better understand and increase the response to the factors fuelling demand and misuse of firearms in the Western Balkans.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goals 2 to 5
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standardize and institutionalize data collection on firearms, by gender and age, regarding legal and illegal SALW/firearms interdictions, armed violence incidents, ballistic evidence, and other firearms-related data resulting in periodic regional FAE.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen tasking, coordination, and monitoring functions of the Firearms Focal Points, to ensure effective policies on Prevention, Mitigation, Reaction, and Suppression of firearms misuse, trafficking and uncontrolled proliferation.</li> <li>• Increase analytical capacities and institutionalize firearms data analysis.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure full implementation and monitoring of legal, policy and procedural framework on trafficking of FAE.</li> <li>• Prevent trafficking (smuggling, illicit trade, and transit) of FAE through improved processes, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement units.</li> <li>• Substantially strengthen control, monitoring and prevention of diversion of legal trade through improved capacities, procedures, and transparency.</li> <li>• Strengthen existing bilateral, regional, and international mechanisms and encouraging new forms of good practice to counter trafficking of firearms.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness and reduce the misuses of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence, and other forms of gender-based violence.</li> <li>• Increase awareness among general population, both women and men, on the danger of misuse, illicit possession, and trafficking of FAE.</li> <li>• Increase awareness of dangers of celebratory shooting in particular as major contributors to firearm related death and injury.</li> <li>• Increase confidence in security institutions as providers of adequate and equal safety for all through community-society-regional outreach activities.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substantially increased number of seized firearms, ammunition, and explosives.</li> <li>• Ensure that legal measures are in place allowing legalization and voluntary surrender of firearms.</li> </ul>
<p>ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end October 2025)</p>	<p>Support to Firearms Focal Points (FFPs) in the WB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Annual Regional FFP Workshop was organized (Igman, 27–29 May 2025), bringing together FFP representatives from the Western Balkans to exchange best practices and discuss emerging threats. The event included training on advanced intelligence collection methods led by the UK National Crime Agency.</li> <li>• Procurement of specialised equipment for FFPs in Serbia, Albania, Kosovo and Montenegro was initiated;</li> <li>• Working Group meeting (Sarajevo, 21 May 2025) for drafting the Memorandum of Understanding on establishing the FFP in Bosnia and Herzegovina was supported, facilitating inter-institutional discussions on procedures and coordination mechanisms.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Regional Workshop on Pyrotechnics and Explosives for Civil Use was held (Skopje, 16-17 September 2025), facilitating knowledge exchange on EU certification systems and safety standards.</li> <li>• A bespoke Guide for Gender Analysis for Firearm Focal Points was developed.</li> </ul> <p>Capacities of authorities in Western Balkans to conduct crime scene investigations in accordance with relevant standards, EU good practices and guidelines strengthened:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Workshop on the Recovery of Electronic Evidence was organised (Skopje, 25–26 February 2025), strengthening investigators’ skills in digital forensics, evidence handling, and online investigations, and introducing SEESAC’s knowledge products on cyber investigations and electronic evidence.</li> <li>• Procurement of specialised CSI and IT equipment advanced across the region, including development and approval of technical specifications.</li> <li>• Montenegro - procurement actions completed, including delivery of CartWinPro ballistic software and ongoing procurement of two mobile ballistic laboratories.</li> <li>• Albania - procured and delivered 690 CSI disposable overalls; additional optical/detection tools and IT equipment procurement underway (re-tendered).</li> <li>• Serbia and Montenegro - completed procurement of 30 desktop workstations and five laptops (delivery pending).</li> <li>• Kosovo - delivered binoculars, night-vision monocular cameras, and GPS trackers; IT equipment procurement finalised and contracted.</li> <li>• North Macedonia - approved technical specifications for IT equipment; procurement to begin in the next period.</li> <li>• Study “3D-Printed Firearms, State of Play, Challenges, and Law Enforcement Approach”, which was translated and produced into BCMS, Albanian, and Macedonian, and distributed to support regional knowledge dissemination.</li> </ul> <p>Knowledge of the factors fueling demand and misuse of firearms in the Western Balkans enhanced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fieldwork and data analysis for the regional Perception Survey related to factors fuelling demand on firearms were completed. Quantitative and qualitative findings from surveys, focus groups, and key informant interviews were analyzed.</li> <li>• The Study on Popular Culture and Social Listening related to firearms was finalised.</li> <li>• The research report was finalised, translated into local languages, and shared with authorities for review, with preliminary findings presented at the Regional SALW Commissions Meeting in July 2025.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A consolidated analysis of legal and policy frameworks for supporting victims of firearm misuse in the Western Balkans was completed.</li> </ul> <p>Awareness and operational capacity to fight illicit and/or misuse of firearms raised among key beneficiaries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Four trainings for Montenegro’s Ministry of Interior and police services on awareness-raising campaign planning, design and Implementation; crisis communication in situations involving firearms; public speaking; and social media use in SALW awareness raising were organized in April and June 2025.</b></li> <li>• <b>Two trainings were organized for Bosnia and Herzegovina’s Ministry of Security, Ministries of Interior and police services on awareness-raising campaign planning, design and implementation and on crisis communication in situations involving firearms (October 2025).</b></li> <li>• <b>Organization of two local-level trainings in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the Ministry of Security, Ministries of Interior, and police services were initiated, focusing on public speaking and on social media use in SALW awareness raising to be held in November 2025.</b></li> <li>• <b>Results and recommendations of the Analysis of Media Reporting on Firearms Misuse in Male Gender-Based Violence Against Women in the Western Balkans were presented to the public (May 2025).</b></li> <li>• <b>The Guidelines for Communication in Crisis Situations Linked to Firearms were finalized and translated into Macedonian, Albanian, and English, shared with jurisdictions for final review and their comments incorporated.</b></li> <li>• <b>The draft of Guidelines for Effective Utilization of Social Media in Awareness-Raising Efforts was developed, and is undergoing internal review.</b></li> <li>• <b>Procured and delivered 50 promotional overalls for the Serbia’s Ministry of Interior staff participating in the firearms collection campaign.</b></li> <li>• <b>1,563 pieces of SALW, and their parts and components were destroyed at the Jelšingrad smelter in Bosnia and Herzegovina (11 October 2025).</b></li> </ul> <p>Capacities for mainstreaming gender into SALW control by institutions in Western Balkans strengthened and gender perspective integrated in institutional work at strategic, legal and operational level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Jurisdiction level trainings on applying the Guidelines for Gender-Responsive Firearms Licensing and Risk Assessment in cases of domestic violence were organized, for police officers from Montenegro, Kosovo and North Macedonia (April–June 2025), preceded by</b></li> </ul>
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	<p>online and in-person preparatory meetings with expert support. For that purpose, bespoke training manual were developed and translated into local languages to support delivery of trainings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Regional Workshop on <i>Gender and SALW for Women’s CSOs</i> was held in Tirana (1–2 July 2025), gathering 18 organisations from the Western Balkans.</li> <li>• The Gender Coach Programme, encompassing five sessions, was held for the Head of <b>Montenegro’s SALW Commission</b>.</li> <li>• The Regional Analysis on Women in SALW Control was published. The Regional Analysis on Institutional Response to Firearms Misuse in Domestic Violence was also finalized and reviewed internally.</li> </ul>
<p>KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The information exchange and knowledge sharing among Firearms Focal Points in the region increased.</li> <li>• Significant advancement of specialized skills and analytical capabilities among FFP representatives through various trainings at regional and jurisdiction level, including: on Critical Thinking Skills and Analytical Capacities (ANACAPA), Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT), Social Media Intelligence (SOCMINT), on Gender Analysis and Gender-Sensitive Data Collection, Analyst Notebook, on Horizon Scanning, High-Value Targets, and Fore Sighting, among others and development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for FFPs.</li> <li>• Awareness of investigators and prosecutors of the types of support in firearms-related investigations that the FFPs and ballistic laboratories can provide was increased through jurisdiction-level outreach sessions.</li> <li>• Significant progress was achieved in developing an acceptable FFP modality in Bosnia and Herzegovina.</li> <li>• International coordination and operational preparation ensured through support to the successfully organized EMPACT Joint Action Days in 2022, 2023 and 2023.</li> <li>• Regional preparedness for future security risks strengthened through comprehensive studies and knowledge products.</li> <li>• Significant improvement of the capacities of CSI Units through improved SOPs, enhanced institutional readiness for ISO/IEC 17020 accreditation, strengthened competencies in digital crime scene documentation, electronic evidence recovery, and chain-of-custody management of the CSI staff, study visits and provision of targeted, needs-based technical equipment.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring sustainability of the expertise developed in the CSI units through a regional training-of-trainers curriculum on advanced CSI topics.</li> <li>• Better understanding of Factors Fuelling Demand and Misuse of Firearms and Shaping Risk-Taking Behaviours in the Western Balkans including of risk and protective factors influencing the demand for firearms.</li> <li>• Improved knowledge on available Legal and Policy Frameworks for Victims' Support in the Western Balkans</li> <li>• Awareness-raising approaches were diversified, and regional collaboration was strengthened through six meetings of the Regional Awareness-Raising Task Force (RAR Task Force).</li> <li>• Institutional capacities in various jurisdictions strengthened in areas such as a) Strategic campaign planning and effective implementation, b) Campaign monitoring and performance evaluation, c) Crisis communication in response to firearms-related incidents, d) Gender-based violence awareness campaigns linked to firearms, e) Leveraging social media for public awareness and managing partnerships with traditional media.</li> <li>• Expansion of access to practical tools and strengthen evidence-based communication practices, through the knowledge products developed.</li> <li>• Reinforced application of skills gained through regional trainings and newly developed knowledge products, through 18 capacity-building trainings (1 regional and 17 jurisdiction-level).</li> <li>• Improved awareness of journalists throughout the region on gender-based violence and the role of firearms, strengthened cooperation between media representatives, communication units of Mols and prosecution offices. Public awareness on firearms misuse and related risks was strengthened through one regional and six jurisdiction-level social media campaigns.</li> <li>• Guidelines for Assessing and Addressing Risks Related to Firearms Misuse in Domestic Violence and the Guidelines for Gender-Responsive Firearms License Approval developed. A regional pool of trainers on the implementation of the guidelines established ensuring sustainability of the capacities developed. A total of 133 police officers trained in 10 one-day trainings in Podgorica, Pristina, Skopje, Tirana and Sarajevo.</li> <li>• Improved knowledge and awareness on the role of women in SALW Control and the Misuse of Firearms in Domestic Violence through two regional analysis.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved cooperation and awareness of women's organisations from the Western Balkans on arms control.</li> <li>• Strengthened institutional capacities for gender-responsive SALW control policy-making and improved interinstitutional cooperation of SALW Commissions.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project implementation was affected by a volatile global and regional context, including the continued war in Ukraine, which influenced the security environment and increased project costs due to rising prices. Frequent elections and political instability across several Western Balkan jurisdictions limited institutional continuity and, at times, delayed or constrained engagement of key counterparts, leading to the postponement or cancellation of some activities.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL END 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide technical assistance and expertise to FFPs.</li> <li>• Continue the procurement and delivery of CSI equipment.</li> <li>• Publish two knowledge products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research Findings on Factors Fuelling Demand and Misuse of Firearms in the Western Balkans</li> <li>- Armed Violence Victim Support in the Western Balkans</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Organize two local-level trainings in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the Ministry of Security, Ministries of Interior, and police services on public speaking and on social media use in SALW awareness raising.</li> <li>• Organize RAR Task Force meeting, 26-27 November 2025, Jahorina, Bosnia and Herzegovina.</li> <li>• Finalize Guidelines for communication in crisis situations linked to firearms</li> <li>• Finalize Guidance on the more effective use of social media for firearms-related awareness-raising activities</li> <li>• Organize online information session between GENSAC, SEESAC and women's organization from the Western Balkans, 6 November 2025</li> <li>• Organize a Workshop for Gender Equality Coordination Board of the Ministry of Security, BiH: Sharing lessons learned and best practices on gender mainstreaming in SALW control in the Western Balkans, 18 November 2025</li> <li>• Organize Gender and SALW workshop for SALW Commission Montenegro, 4 December 2025.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	UNDP Albania
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Integrated Institutional Approach and Strengthening Cross-Border Cooperation to SALW Control (Phase I) Mr. Vladimir Malkaj, E-mail: <a href="mailto:vladimir.malkaj@undp.org">vladimir.malkaj@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	5 December 2023 – 6 December 2025
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Albanian State Police
DONOR	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1,205,490
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	To provide assistance and equipment to the Border Police, Albanian Institute of Scientific Police, and the CSI unit of the Kukes Police Directorate. This Project also focuses to enhance police exchange and cooperation on SALW matters between Albania and Kosovo and is implementing joint activities with UNDP in Kosovo.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 2 and 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Standardize and institutionalize recordkeeping and data collection on weapons, ammunition and explosives, disaggregated by sex and age.</li> </ul> Goal 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> <li>Strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and platforms to counter misuse, illicit manufacturing, possession and trafficking of WAE.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivery of the procured specialized equipment to the Albanian State Police, consisting of two drones for day and night use, 60 min flight independence, 2 portable scanners, 5 medium range thermal cameras, 10 long-range day binocular, 5 medium-range night binoculars, and for 5 portable document scanners. Coupled with this, the project provided training on the use of drones and hand-held scanners for 14 police officers of the Border Police.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A three-day study visit for officials from Albania to the Paris Forensic Laboratory, to acquire knowledge and best practices relating to the exchange of ballistic data through the EVOFINDER system was conducted at the end of May 2025.</li> <li>• In cooperation with the Western Balkans Cyber Capacity Centre (WB3C) in Montenegro, the project implemented a four-day training in June 2025 for 15 Albanian State Police officers and 3 prosecutors.</li> <li>• The Project supported the participation of two experts in the ENFSI meeting in October 2025, which was held in the Hague, The Netherlands.</li> <li>• Five 4x4 vehicles for green border patrolling were delivered in September 2025.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forensic experts were supported by UNDP to learn from good practice in advancing and standardizing FAE investigations through specialized events provided by the European Network of the Forensic Scientific Institutes (ENFSI).</li> <li>• Knowledge on relevant processes and accreditation of 12 forensic experts from the Albanian Institute of Scientific Police (AISP) (six women, six men) improved through the peer-exchange with the Forensic Laboratory in Pristina on accredited forensic methods.</li> <li>• The technical capacities of the border police for green border patrolling were enhanced through the UNDP-procured specialized equipment for this purpose,.</li> <li>• Capacities of the Albanian Institute of Scientific Police and the regional forensic sector in Kukës improved p.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation of Albanian FPI in ENFSI conferences.</li> <li>• Assessment of feasibility of "EVOFINDER" ballistic data share between Albania and Kosovo.</li> <li>• Design and disseminate advanced training on countering FAE smuggling tailored to frontline staff.</li> <li>• Darkweb training for law enforcement authorities to combat online firearms trafficking and transnational crime.</li> <li>• Provision of equipment for green border BMP patrolling.</li> <li>• Provision of SALW-related investigation equipment for the Albanian FPI</li> <li>• Design approach for basic standard equipment used for detection of FAE and equipment maintenance planning and budgeting.</li> <li>• Joint police operations at the BCPs and GBLs in increasing bilateral cooperation in countering IAT and increasing firearms confiscations.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<i>Law Enforcement Agencies' Development in Small Arms and Light Weapon's Control - LEAD</i>  Mr. Senad Zlatar, Project Manager, E-mail: <a href="mailto:senad.zlatar@undp.org">senad.zlatar@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	6 December 2023 – 31 December 2026 (new end date following MPTF SC decision from July 2025)
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	BiH SALW CB, Indirect Taxation Authority, Border Police BiH, State Investigation and Protection Agency, BiH Prosecutor Office and prosecutor offices at entity and cantonal level, relevant police bodies at entity and cantonal level, police academies, associations of women police officials, as well as national NGOs.
DONOR	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1,855,035 (new amount following MPTF SC decision from July 2025)
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	The Project LEAD aims to enhance the capacity and engagement of relevant institutions and civil society in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as strengthen inter-agency and cross-border collaboration to advance the implementation of the SALW Control Strategy and the SALW Control Roadmap.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goals 2 to 4
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop/align SALW strategies and/or the Action Plans with the Roadmap</li> <li>• Fully integrate gender and age concerns in arms control policies and prioritize meaningful participation of women in policymaking.</li> <li>• Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of the policy documents on arms control.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standardize and institutionalize recordkeeping and data collection on weapons, ammunition and explosives, disaggregated by sex and age.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> <li>• Strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and platforms to counter misuse, illicit manufacturing, possession and trafficking of WAE</li> <li>• Develop sustainable partnerships to strengthen advocacy, reinforce outreach and reach messaging multipliers.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen public trust in security institutions and develop sustainable partnerships to strengthen advocacy and outreach.</li> <li>• Increase awareness and education among the general population, on the danger of WAE.</li> <li>• Increase awareness to reduce the misuse of firearms in violence against women and girls, domestic violence and other forms of GBV, as well as awareness among young men on the dangers of misuse of weapons and explosives and their engagement through targeted programs.</li> </ul>
<p>KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end October 2025)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organized handover ceremony for 26 contraband detectors/density meters to 14 police agencies in February 2025.</li> <li>• Organized handover ceremony for 1 contraband detector/density meter at FBiH Mol's Police Academy in October 2025, including appropriate training for 5 FBiH Mol's Police Academy staff.</li> <li>• Procured and installed ballistic lab equipment (workbenches, toolsets, ventilation systems) for two ballistic laboratories Bosnia and Herzegovina (located in Federation Police Directorate in Sarajevo and RS Mol in Banja Luka). Specialized equipment will be handed over to both ballistic labs by the end of Q4 2025.</li> <li>• Initiated procurement and finalized evaluation of best offeror for CSI kits for 14 police agencies.</li> <li>• Developed ToR for a legal firearms application in FBiH, i.e. 10 cantonal administrations of police subsequently endorsed by these police agencies; tender published and contract awarded to the best IT company. Established WG consisting of 22 members from 10 cantonal administrations of police and Federation Police Directorate, adopted Rules of Procedures, and agreed on final draft of functional specification for a new application.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organized cross-border AEA expert exchange (BiH–Serbia) in Belgrade in May 2025 with participation of 6 experts (2 women and 4 men) from BiH from three different institutions (state-level Agency Agency for Forensic and Expert Examinations, Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior and Federation Police Directorate) and 5 experts from Serbia Mol (1 women and 4 men).</li> <li>• After having conducted meetings in 2024 gathering prosecutors from 5 Republika Srpska District Prosecutor’s Offices, 10 cantonal prosecutor’s offices and Brčko District Prosecutor’s Office, the project team finalized the draft SALW Investigation Guidebook in close cooperation with BiH Prosecutor’s Office representatives and presented it to ten cantonal Mols, FPD, SIPA in three separate meetings with participation of 38 experienced police inspectors. Suggestions and comments were collected during these meetings while remaining meetings with RS Mol police officials will be organized in 2026. All suggestions will be incorporated in the final version of the Guidebook.</li> <li>• Finalized Guidelines for Police Cadets on illegal SALW and explosives; validated with police academies in Sarajevo and Banja Luka and pending final verification by the Agency for Education and Professional Training in Mostar. Postponed cross-border law enforcement–prosecutor joint exercises with Serbia to late 2025 and into 2026 due to political constraints..</li> <li>• Supported BiH SALW Coordination Board meeting in Sarajevo in February 2025 with 30+ participants from 20 institutions in BiH and 5 international organizations.</li> <li>• Advanced Gender Equality Seal (GES) process with BiH Ministry of Security: completed self-assessment (March 2025) and Action Plan workshop (May 2025). Conducted Gender Responsive Budgeting workshop (Jun 2025) as part of the GES process.</li> <li>• Monitored and finalized 8 CSO low-value grant projects promoting SALW awareness. These initiatives mobilized local communities and strengthened citizen participation in violence-prevention activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supported creative outreach tools: short film “The Game” (<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcYKVnvz4Kg">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zcYKVnvz4Kg</a>) produced by CSO “Forum” and theatre play “Echo of Silence” (<a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1WmgNMdlwQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1WmgNMdlwQ</a>) produced by “Youth Theater Tuizla” on SALW misuse awareness; supported by relevant police agencies for school outreach.</li> <li>• CSOs held events and produced research on SALW and domestic violence, widely covered in media. - <b>“Lara”</b> Bijeljina created “Study on the Impact of SALW in Domestic Violence” in a form of a book with over 100 pages. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- “Center for Women Rights” Zenica created “Contextual Analysis – Risks, Challenges and Recommendations for Improving the Safety of Women Victims of Violence.”</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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	<p>- “Women from Una” Bihać conducted research named “Enhance Safety – Reduce Risk.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Organized a meeting among women police associations, 2 from BiH and 1 from Serbia, in Neum on 30 September 2025, with participation of 25 women police officials and Chair and deputy Chair of BiH SALW Control Commission.</li> </ul>
<p>KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthened the operational capacity of police agencies to detect illicit trafficking and enhance border control measures.</li> <li>Modernized forensic infrastructure and aligned ballistic labs’ operations with international investigative standards.</li> <li>Improved effectiveness of on-site evidence collection and improve the quality of criminal investigations.</li> <li>Improved standardized data collection on legally owned weapons, enhanced accuracy across police jurisdictions and significantly simplified and improved legal weapons’ issuance.</li> <li>Promoted regional cooperation and peer learning on managing arson, explosion, and accident investigations.</li> <li>The SALW Investigation Guidebook providing police investigators with streamlined procedures for SALW-related criminal cases.</li> <li>The Guidelines for Police Cadets on illegal SALW and explosives incorporated into regular training curricula, ensuring new police recruits gain consistent knowledge on SALW control.</li> <li>Enhanced inter-agency communication and policy coherence in SALW control efforts.</li> <li>Institutionalized gender equality principles and strengthened internal accountability mechanisms for Ministry of Security. Improved Ministry staff’s capacity to integrate gender considerations into resource planning and policy design.</li> <li>Expanded public understanding of how firearms exacerbate gender-based and domestic violence risks. Three knowledge products published by three CSO’s:</li> <li>Effective engagement of youth and reinforced preventive messaging through art and storytelling.</li> <li>Promotion of women’s leadership in policing, including in SALW control, while strengthening cross-border gender-responsive cooperation.</li> </ul>
<p>MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Given complex constitutional and security structure of BiH, the main challenge in the implementation of the project is the large number of project partners, including police agencies within the jurisdiction, establishing coordination with all partners, and scheduling activities. Although the Project Team has successfully coordinated all project partners</li> </ul>

	<p>thus far, the current political situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina may lead to delays in the implementation of certain project activities within the planned timeframe. Also, and upon consultation with UNDP Serbia colleagues, cross-border activities involving stakeholders from Serbia have also been put on hold due to complex political situation in Serbia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of a new application for legal SALW in FBiH has been taking a lot longer than anticipated due to several reasons. One of the key reasons was seeking an approval from all 10 cantonal police commissioners/director of police and acting director of Federation Police Directorate on the developed and later amended ToR in line with their comments.</li> <li>• In conclusion, although the project implementation is still underway, its progress has been hindered by political instability and the complexities of coordinating with multiple beneficiaries. As a result of these, but also other considerations, MPTF SC decided to grant cost-extension of the project and the project team addressed priority needs identified by the MPTF while rescheduling certain project activities in line with a new project end date.</li> </ul>
<p>ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign the contract with best offeror for CSI kits to be delivered to 14 police agencies.</li> <li>• Organize handover of specialized ballistics equipment to two ballistic labs in BiH.</li> <li>• Organize another meeting (possibly in an online format) of the WG on development of an application for legal SALW in FBiH.</li> <li>• Organize joint BiH-Serbia exercise involving border police, customs and representatives of prosecutors' office from both countries.</li> <li>• Organize a meeting of all 10 cantonal police commissioners/directors of police and Federation Police Directorate.</li> <li>• Organize another verification visit to the Agency for Education and Professional Training in Mostar to seek final feedback on incorporation of developed Guidelines for Police Cadets on SALW-related crimes.</li> <li>• Given the new cost-extension of the project, extend contracts with vendors, including the contract with the selected IT company on development of an application for legal SALW in FBiH.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	UNDP Kosovo
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<i>Integrated Institutional Approach and Strengthening Cross-Border Cooperation to SALW Control (Phase I)</i> Ms. Marta K. Gazideda, Governance and Peacebuilding Portfolio Manager, E-mail: <a href="mailto:marta.gazideda@undp.org">marta.gazideda@undp.org</a> and Mr. Mentor Cakolli, Project Manager, E-mail: <a href="mailto:mentor.cakolli@undp.org">mentor.cakolli@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	3 November 2023 – 31 December 2026
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministry of Internal Affairs/SALW Commission, Police
DONOR	Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap Multi-Partner Trust Fund
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1,600,990
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	Objective 1: Increase the Integrated Institutional Approach and Community Engagement in Kosovo to effectively and efficiently implement SALW, Ammunition and Explosives Control. Objective 2: Strengthen the Cross-border Cooperation in the field of SALW Control.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goals 2 to 5
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop/align SALW strategies and/or the Action Plans with the Roadmap.</li> <li>• Fully integrate gender and age concerns in arms control policies and prioritize meaningful participation of women in policymaking.</li> <li>• Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of the policy documents on arms control.</li> <li>• Standardize and institutionalize recordkeeping and data collection on weapons, ammunition and explosives, disaggregated by sex and age.</li> <li>• Strengthen and systematize the collection and reporting of criminal justice data.</li> <li>• Ensure that every weapon recovered or seized is traced (domestically and/or internationally).</li> </ul> Goal 3:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substantially strengthen risk analysis systems, control, monitoring and prevention of diversion from legal trade through improved capacities, procedures and transparency.</li> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> <li>• Improve inter-institutional cooperation at operational level on intelligence sharing, including the provision of systematic and timely feedback.</li> <li>• Strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and platforms to counter misuse, illicit manufacturing, possession and trafficking of WAE.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness among licensed private and legal entities (including arms, ammunition and explosive producers, brokers, traders, transport companies, and collectors) about the danger of misuse, illicit proliferation and risks of diversion of arms, ammunition and explosives.</li> <li>• Strengthen public trust in security institutions and develop sustainable partnerships to strengthen advocacy and outreach.</li> <li>• Increase awareness and education among the general population, on the danger of WAE.</li> <li>• Increase awareness to reduce the misuse of firearms in violence against women and girls, domestic violence and other forms of GBV, as well as awareness among young men on the dangers of misuse of weapons and explosives and their engagement through targeted programs.</li> <li>• Increase public awareness of the dangers of celebratory shooting.</li> <li>• Systematically use legalization of firearms and voluntary surrender of WAE as means for reducing illicit possession and misuse.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regular and secure destruction of confiscated and collected SALW, ammunition and explosives or disposed of in another transparent manner.</li> <li>• Ensure safe and secure SALW, ammunition and explosive storage facilities based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The E-Learning Platform for the first time fully developed, fully operational and already in use by the Kosovo Police;</li> <li>• The awareness raising campaign “Celebrate with Heart, Not Your Gun” continues to be implemented successfully;</li> <li>• Training for 20 police officers and representatives of community safety forums in RPD Gjakovë/Đakovica successfully completed regarding practical learning and the exchange of knowledge on community-focused security measures. on SALW Control.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handed over 25 handheld light weight metal detectors to the Kosovo Police enabling more thorough and efficient security checks, helping to prevent illicit trafficking, and contributing to safer and more controlled border management.</li> <li>• The Tool Scan technology procured and the training in utilizing the equipment was completed for 10 forensic experts (7 men and 3 women).</li> <li>• The latest versions of iBase and Analyst's Notebook (ANB) installed in Firearms Focal Point (FFP) by advancing further analytical capacities.</li> <li>• Organized two-day intensive training to enhance the skills and knowledge of 20 first responders and investigators (all men) in tackling cybercrime. The sessions focused on building practical expertise in collecting, handling, and preserving electronic evidence, while also introducing investigative techniques and tools needed to effectively address crimes committed in digital spaces.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advancing human and technical capacities of the Press and Public Information Offices in Kosovo Police and the Ministry of Internal Affairs;</li> <li>• Successfully trained and unified knowledge on SALW control for 22 border police officers from Kosovo and Albania;</li> <li>• Ensured sustainability through a Train the Trainers programme on the recently developed curriculum for Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), Ammunition, and Explosives Control;</li> <li>• The E-Learning Platform for the first time is fully operational and already in use by the Kosovo Police;</li> <li>• Improved capabilities of the forensic experts (7 men and 3 women);</li> <li>• Improved analytical capabilities of the Firearms Focal Point (FFP);</li> <li>• Improved capacities of the police for more thorough and efficient security checks, helping to prevent illicit trafficking, and contributing to safer and more controlled border management;</li> <li>• Improved knowledge on community-focused security measures on SALW Control of police officers and representatives of community safety forums.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The general elections and challenges related to political and institutional distraction, heightened tensions, policy uncertainty, security threats.</li> <li>• Fragile safety and security situation and priority of engagement of personnel from the MoIA / Kosovo Police side;</li> <li>• Delayed adoption of the Law on Firearms and the Law on Civil Use of Explosives.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening cybercrime investigations capacities to conduct online investigations on the Darknet/dark web/internet;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the police in establishing the maintenance workshop for all SALW related detection equipment;</li> <li>• Supporting capacities of MoIA/Department for Public Safety/Division for Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives and KP's Section for Improvised Explosives Devices (IEOD);</li> <li>• Support the Forensic Agency in further strengthening ballistic examination capacities;</li> <li>• Organize awareness raising campaign regarding SALW control, preventing misuse of firearms and increasing reporting of firearms related incidents.</li> </ul>
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ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	UNDP Montenegro
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Advancing the Forensic Capacities of the Police Directorate of Montenegro for processing Firearms and Explosives-related Crimes Mr. Gordan Ivanovic, E-mail: <a href="mailto:gordan.ivanovic@undp.org">gordan.ivanovic@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	November 2023 – December 2026
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Police Directorate/Forensic Center
DONOR	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1,391,105
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	None
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	The project aims at improving the crime scene investigation and laboratory forensic capacities of the Police Directorate of Montenegro for providing forensic evidence and intelligence necessary for investigating and judicial processing of the trafficking of firearms, their ammunition, explosives, and precursors, as well as other FAE-related criminal offences, including the sexual and gender-based violence. The focus will be on standardizing work processes in accordance with the policy and recommendations of the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) and preparing for accreditation in line with ISO/IEC 17025 and 17020 international standards.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goals 2 and 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen and systematize the collection and reporting of criminal justice data.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced training for 3D laser scanning crime scene documenting</li> <li>• Advanced training for aerial photography crime scene documenting</li> <li>• Delivery of the remaining equipment for Arson and Explosives Lab and Guns Shot residues lab</li> <li>• Development of 5 SOPs for the CSI Unit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SOP/WI on CSI documentation by utilizing the 3D laser scanning technique.</li> <li>- SOP/WI on CSI documentation by utilizing aerial photography.</li> <li>- SOP/WI on forensic evidence recovery by utilizing the Crime Lite Auto device.</li> <li>- SOP/WI on searching, locating, collecting, and further handling of firearms and other ballistic evidence.</li> <li>- SOP/WI on protecting (packing) evidentiary items at the scene, marking them following the unique identity principle, and establishing and maintaining the custody chain</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Training on selected CSI topics based on the SOPs- advanced training on 3D scanner, quadcopter and Crime Lite Auto device.</li> <li>• Protocol developed on interviewing techniques with GBV cases.</li> <li>• Training for internal auditors.</li> <li>• Gunsmith workshop and shooting range refurbished.</li> <li>• Development of Protocol for interviewing technique for GBV cases.</li> <li>• Nine ENFSI workshops attend by 13 experts from the Forensic Center.</li> <li>• Two study visits organized for the experts from the Forensic Center to Bratislava and Ljubljana Forensic Center.</li> </ul>

KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced the Police Directorate's forensic institutional capabilities, meaning the ability to provide a wider range of credible evidence needed for prosecuting WAE-related crimes.</li> <li>Standardization of work processes and result presentation forms facilitates the cross-border exchange of forensic evidence and intelligence, boosting international cooperation in combating WAE-enabled criminality.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Higer workload of professionals partially limits their ability to participate in project activities. Delays in some trainings</li> <li>Small pool of experts.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revision of existing procedures for operating the ballistic open case file physical collection, updating, and improving it in line with the OCF standards.</li> <li>Experts are working in close cooperation with experts from Forensic Center on the development of new methods for Arson and Explosives Lab, Chemical Lab as well as for Gun Shot Residues lab.</li> <li>Training on training for practical aspects of ISO/IEC 17020 in CSI.</li> <li>Trainings for documenting injuries during medical examinations and interviewing technics/protocol for the CSI officers.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	UNDP North Macedonia
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Strengthening the Capacities of the Forensics and Crime Scene Investigation System to Improve Criminal Justice Response to SALW  Slagjana Srbinoska, Programme Analyst / Head of Democratic Governance Unit, E-mail: <a href="mailto:slagjana.srbinoska@undp.org">slagjana.srbinoska@undp.org</a> and Ivana Petrovska, Project Manager, E-mail: <a href="mailto:ivana.petrovska@undp.org">ivana.petrovska@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	1 January 2024 – 30 September 2025
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministry of Interior, North Macedonia
DONOR	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1,499,180

FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	The objective of the project is to modernize the forensic and Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) system in North Macedonia, with the aim of improving the quality of investigation and enabling a more efficient criminal justice response to SALW.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 2 to 4
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen and systematize the collection and reporting of criminal justice data. Standardize and institutionalize recordkeeping and data collection on weapons, ammunition and explosives, disaggregated by sex and age.</li> <li>• Ensure that every weapon recovered or seized is traced (domestically and/or internationally).</li> <li>• Fully integrate gender and age concerns in arms control policies and prioritize meaningful participation of women in policymaking.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness and education among the general population, on the danger of WAE.</li> <li>• Increase awareness among licensed private and legal entities (including arms, ammunition and explosive producers, brokers, traders, transport companies, and collectors) about the danger of misuse, illicit proliferation and risks of diversion of arms, ammunition and explosives.</li> <li>• Strengthen public trust in security institutions and develop sustainable partnerships to strengthen advocacy and outreach.</li> <li>• Increase awareness to reduce the misuse of firearms in violence against women and girls, domestic violence and other forms of GBV, as well as awareness among young men on the dangers of misuse of weapons and explosives and their engagement through targeted programs.</li> <li>• Increase public awareness of the dangers of celebratory shooting.</li> </ul>

<p>KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)</p>	<p>Output 1.1 - <b>Ballistic facilities and operations of Mol's Forensics Department are upgraded</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During this reporting period, UNDP North Macedonia supported the upgrade of the indoor shooting range within the Ministry of Interior. All enhancements have been completed, transforming the facility into a safer, more efficient, and technologically advanced environment for ballistic testing.</li> <li>• <b>At the Ministry's request, a document outlining the safe and secure use of the range was developed to ensure that all donated equipment and renovation works are governed by clear operational guidelines. Once reviewed and approved, the document will be integrated into the Ministry's quality management system, promoting responsible use and enhanced safety standards.</b></li> </ul> <p>Output 1.2 - Analytical, technical and investigative capacities of the Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) units are enhanced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2025, significant advancements were made to strengthen crime scene investigation (CSI) capacities across North Macedonia.</li> <li>• The technical documentation for the preparation of CSI training and simulation facility was finalized – the project designs focused on civil engineering, architecture as well as electrical, thermal, water supply and sewage system. All designs received positive technical review.</li> <li>• A major improvement to crime scene investigation units across the country was completed with the donation of specialized equipment designed to enhance their capabilities. The equipment includes specialized CSI kits for field work, photo cameras for documenting crime scenes, as well as computers and hardware equipment.</li> <li>• A gender-sensitive workshop for CSI officers was held in Berovo, promoting victim-centered approaches in firearm-related cases. Additionally, practical Guidelines for Forensic Techniques in Gender-Based Violence cases were developed, supporting ethical and trauma-informed evidence collection.</li> </ul> <p>Output 1.3 - SALW-related data collection and management as well as measures to prevent SALW misuse are further advanced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2025, major progress was achieved in delivering the new version of Police Information Management System (IRDAM) for the Ministry of Interior. Following the finalization of the Terms of Reference for a comprehensive software upgrade the procurement process was launched. The upgrade was successfully completed and delivered, building on a detailed needs assessment and business analysis. The improved IRDAM now includes a specialized module for handling domestic violence cases with an accent on cases involving firearms, alongside enhanced functionalities that strengthen data collection, analysis, and evidence-based responses. These advancements constitute a significant</li> </ul>
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	investment in public safety and operational efficiency, utilizing digitalization to strengthen intelligence-led policing.
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The indoor shooting range is a safer, more efficient, and technologically advanced environment for ballistic testing. Improvements significantly strengthen the Forensic Department's capacity to conduct accurate firearms examinations and contribute to the pursuit of justice. The newly completed range is set to become a premier facility for the ballistic examination of firearms and ammunition, playing a pivotal role in the control and management of SALW in North Macedonia.</li> <li>• Capacities of crime scene investigation units significantly improved with specialised equipment.</li> <li>• New version of Police Information Management System (IRDAM) for the Ministry of Interior completed constituting a significant investment in public safety and operational efficiency, utilizing digitalization to strengthen intelligence-led policing.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The main challenges encountered by the project are related to the difficulties in obtaining the premises for the CSI Training and Simulation Facility. This situation delayed the implementation of the project activities. Changes to the selected building led to an increased workload for technical documentation preparation and extended the implementation timeline. Additionally, the larger building allocated by the Ministry for this purpose requires a greater investment in renovation. UNDP is discussing with the Ministry and other international partners to coordinate a joint intervention for the premises.</li> <li>• An additional challenge is the frequent change of the project coordinators within the partner institutions due to the parliamentary elections that took place in 2024. A new Senior Policy Advisor was appointed by the Ministry in February 2025. Despite the delays for the approval of the Terms of Reference and the short deadlines for the development of the new module and IRDAM improvement, the requirements were met, and the company has delivered the requested tasks.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Ministry of Interior is expected to approve the Manual for safe and secure use of the indoor shooting range.</li> <li>• The shooting range will be officially promoted and put into operational use by the Ministry of Interior.</li> <li>• Procurement procedures will be initiated for the renovation of the CSI training premises.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	UNDP Serbia
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Advancing the Capacities of the Ministry of Interior in the SALW Control-Related Field (Phase III) Mr. Zarko Petrovic, Resilient Development Programme Specialist, E-mail: <a href="mailto:zarko.petrovic@undp.org">zarko.petrovic@undp.org</a> and Mr. Igor Srbljanovic, Project Manger, E-mail: <a href="mailto:igor.srbljanovic@undp.org">igor.srbljanovic@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	November 2023 - December 2026
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Moi Serbia, General Police Directorate, Criminal Investigation Directorate, Forensic Center, and Administrative Police Directorate
DONOR	Multi Partner Trust Fund
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1,862,540
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	The overall objective of the Project is to strengthen the capacities of the Ministry of Interior in the entire investigative cycle in order to improve investigations to achieve regular convictions. The General Police Directorate will be better equipped, trained and modernized.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 2 to 5.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standardize and institutionalize recordkeeping and data collection on weapons, ammunition and explosives, disaggregated by sex and age.</li> <li>• Strengthen and systematize the collection and reporting of criminal justice data.</li> </ul> Goal 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> <li>• Improve inter-institutional cooperation at operational level on intelligence sharing, including the provision of systematic and timely feedback.</li> </ul> Goal 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure safe and secure SALW, ammunition and explosive storage facilities based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.</li> </ul>

<p>KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)</p>	<p>Output 1: Improved overall CSI and evidence-management capacities of the Serbian Mol/NFC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two FARO licenses for 3D scanners were delivered, as well as 3-day training on the site for 18 participants from CSI units divided into four groups.</li> <li>• 2 CNA Fuming Chambers and Discover Imaging System for the Forensic Center of the Ministry of Interior of Serbia were delivered, as well as 2-day training for usage of that equipment.</li> <li>• Evidence reception rooms in RFC Niš and Užice, as well as the forensic evidence depository in the PD Belgrade CSI Department were successfully adapted.</li> <li>• Initiation of the preparation of the ILAC G19 curriculum. Curricula have been approved by NFC. 2-day training for 37 (4 Women, 33 Men), from Serbia and region organized in October 2025. 31 from Serbia and 6 from Region (Slovenia, BiH, North Macedonia).</li> </ul> <p>Output 2: Improved overall NFC capacities for ballistic examinations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The upgrade of three ballistic microscopes in the ballistic laboratories located in Belgrade and Niš was successfully completed. Proficiency tests have been processed and evaluation is ongoing.</li> <li>• The assessment with the recommendations about future accreditation of the regional ballistic labs as well as the assessment of the necessary equipment for the regional labs were prepared.</li> <li>• Ballistic Mentor Specialist prepared training for the Action plan for the accreditation of the ballistic labs. UNDP project team announced and organized first two-day training for early October for 9 participants. Online meetings with regional ballistic labs have been organized regularly.</li> <li>• In October second 2-day meeting with prosecutors' office (PO) for 22 participants (6 women, 16 men), 8 from Mol and 14 from PO was organized.</li> <li>• Two bilateral meetings between Serbian and BiH ballistic experts was organized to discuss the SALW (Small Arms and Light Weapons) project, aimed at enhancing regional cooperation. First meeting was organized in Belgrade in February and second in Bosnia and Herzegovina beginning of October 2024, organized by the UNDP project teams from both jurisdictions. The second event organized in Sarajevo and Banja Luka.</li> <li>• Preparation of the bilateral meeting for 2025/2026 with BiH counterparts.</li> </ul> <p>Output 3: Improved overall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The assessment of NFC capacities for explosion examinations was conducted and the technical specification of the necessary equipment was approved by the AEA unit. The equipment was delivered to the NFC.</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bilateral meeting between AEA experts from Serbia and BiH initiated and organized in December 2024 in Sarajevo, attended by 4 experts from Serbia and 6 counterparts from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Second bilateral meeting was organized in May 2025 in Belgrade, for 15 (3 women, 12 men) participants from both jurisdictions.</li> <li>• Preparations for the expert visit planned with NFI (Forensic Institute in Netherlands) for beginning of 2026.</li> <li>• 2 training for forensic technicians in the area of post-blast were organized in April 2025 for <b>24 participants (3 women, 21 men)</b>, and in <b>May, in Vršac</b> - 25 participants (4 women, 21 men), totalling 49 participants.</li> </ul> <p>Output 4: Improved capacities of the NFC chemical laboratory for examinations of traces of explosives and of gunshot residues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The upgrade of two SEM microscopes in the laboratory for GSR was successfully completed. Preparations for the validation of the GSR method with expert from Wiesbaden is planned for mid-November for 4 days. One Proficiency test has been processed.</li> <li>• Progress was made toward achieving ISO 17025 accreditation, with two proficiency tests acquired as a critical step in evaluating laboratory performance against international standards. Preparation of the expert visit planned for beginning of November.</li> </ul> <p>Output 5: Improved validity and visibility of achieved NFC capacities in line with recognized standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One NFC representative participated in the ENFSI Scene of Crime Working Group Meeting held in The Hague, Netherlands, from 23–25 September 2025 and two additional NFC representatives participated in the 31<sup>st</sup> ENFSI EWG Firearms/GSR Meeting, in The Hague in October 2025.</li> </ul> <p>Output 6: Improved safety and capacities of Police Administration Directorate in handling of firearms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Firearms identification training was held in Soko Banja for 46 participants (31 women, 15 men) and on Kopaonik for 39 participants (26 women; 13 men), totalling 85 participants during 2024. During the 2025, Firearms identification training held in Sokobanja for 37 participants (26 women; 11 men) and in Vršac for <b>38 participants (28 women; 10 men)</b>, totalling 75 participants. For two years, 160 participants past FI training, all 27 police directorates.</li> <li>• Preparation after the assessment of the necessary equipment for PAD processed (Metal lockers, wooden storage and bullet traps). Procurement process completed and contract with selected company signed. Selected company successfully delivered 130 metal lockers, 20 wooden storage crates, and 5 bullet catchers for the AAD units of the Mol.</li> </ul>
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KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthened regional cooperation and exchanging of best practices with local forensic experts.</li> <li>• Improved digital documentation of crime scenes.</li> <li>• Improved the accuracy, reliability, and standardization of crime-scene documentation and evidence processing of the Forensic Centre.</li> <li>• Modernized and standardized evidence-handling rooms, strengthening Mol's chain-of-custody integrity and improved compliance with forensic standards.</li> <li>• Improved regional harmonization and institutional alignment with recognized international guidelines in CSI.</li> <li>• The upgraded equipment and preparatory work advanced the central lab toward expanding ISO 17025 accreditation.</li> <li>• Established clear roadmap for harmonizing regional ballistic work with international quality standards.</li> <li>• Improved procedural consistency between central and regional ballistic units.</li> <li>• Strengthened mutual understanding of forensic procedures and improved cooperation in firearms-related cases.</li> <li>• Enhanced regional cooperation, knowledge sharing, and alignment of ballistic practices.</li> <li>• Modern tools procured ensuring high-quality explosive forensic examinations.</li> <li>• Strengthened regional networks and introduced best practices from EU forensic institutions.</li> <li>• Improved operational readiness for explosion-related crime scenes.</li> <li>• The relevant labs advanced towards introducing a validated, modern GSR method and towards establishing an additional accredited explosives-analysis capability.</li> <li>• Increased participation of NFC representatives, strengthened international recognition and integration into European forensic networks.</li> <li>• 160 participants trained, covering all 27 police directorates ensuring firearm identification skills strengthened, directly improving frontline handling of weapons and EU alignment.</li> <li>• Security of storages and handling capacity across police stations significantly improved through the delivery of 140 metal lockers, 20 wooden storage crates, 5 bullet catchers..</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A

ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete delivery of equipment for adapted premises in Belgrade, Nis and Užice.</li> <li>• Prepare documentation for the accreditation process for regional laboratories in line with ISO 17025 standard.</li> <li>• Organize online meetings with ballistic experts from the regional ballistic labs before the accreditation process.</li> <li>• Organize one more meeting in Belgrade with ballistic experts from Serbia and BiH.</li> <li>• Validation of the GSR method from the expert from Wiesbaden.</li> <li>• Specialized 3-day training from experts from France, Lyon, is planned for November.</li> <li>• Organize PB Meeting with head of outputs from Mol.</li> </ul>
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ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	UNDP Serbia
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Reduce Risk – Increase Safety III Ms. Maja Brankovic Djundic, Gender Equality Portfolio Manager, <a href="mailto:maja.djundic@undp.org">maja.djundic@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	31 October 2023 – 31 December 2026
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	<p><u>Implementing partners:</u> <i>Ministry of Interior, Institute for Public Health “Dr. Milan Jovanovic Batut”,</i></p> <p><u>Beneficiaries:</u> Ministry of Justice, group Journalists against Violence, Network of Women in the Police, specialized CSOs dedicated to preventing violence against women and increasing safety, persons who are or may become victims of firearms misuse, either in the context of gender-based violence or in the context of suicide by firearms.</p>
DONOR	Roadmap Multi- Partner Trust Fund
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1, 026,135 (= EUR 887,606) <sup>9</sup>
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A

<sup>9</sup> EUR amount calculated according to UNORE exchange rate for USD/EUR effective from 14 November 2025.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES	The objective of the project is to bridge the gaps identified under specific Goals 2 and 4 of the Roadmap, with a specific focus on reducing the risk of firearms misuse for violence and suicide in Serbia, while strengthening the role of women in SALW control policies, fostering collaboration and knowledge of relevant stakeholders, and enhancing community response to firearms-related crises and trauma with the goal of restoring safety and trust in institutions. The overall goal of the project is to contribute to meaningful integration of gender perspective into the SALW control policies.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goals 2 and 4.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully integrate gender and age concerns in arms control policies and prioritize meaningful participation of women in policymaking.</li> <li>• Standardize and institutionalize recordkeeping and data collection on weapons, ammunition and explosives, disaggregated by sex and age.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness among licensed private and legal entities (including arms, ammunition and explosive producers, brokers, traders, transport companies, and collectors) about the danger of misuse, illicit proliferation and risks of diversion of arms, ammunition and explosives.</li> <li>• Increase awareness and education among the general population, on the danger of WAE.</li> <li>• Increase awareness to reduce the misuse of firearms in violence against women and girls, domestic violence and other forms of GBV, as well as awareness among young men on the dangers of misuse of weapons and explosives and their engagement through targeted programs.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the reporting period, the project delivered results in strengthening legal, institutional, and community-level capacities to prevent the misuse of firearms in domestic violence and suicide, while also improving post-crisis support mechanisms linked to mass shooting incidents.</li> <li>• The project contributed to strengthening legal and policy frameworks by convening a task force of legal experts to identify gaps in domestic violence measures involving firearms, resulting in evidence-based recommendations for new practices, legal amendments, and bylaws. These recommendations are now informing the Ministry of Justice working group drafting amendments to the Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence, ensuring integration of firearms-misuse risk factors.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project supported enhancing health-sector capacities to detect and prevent firearms misuse by developing a Training of Trainers program for healthcare professionals on preventing gender-based and firearms-enabled domestic violence. Furthermore, it initiated the creation of a standardized firearms-misuse risk assessment tool for healthcare settings, to advance firearms-misuse risk detection and prevention within the healthcare system.</li> <li>• To improve crisis response, trauma care and victim support the project has conducted a mapping of needs and resources for survivors of mass shootings and frontline responders and provided follow-up expert support to previously trained mental health professionals providing therapy for children, adolescents, and families affected by mass shootings.</li> <li>• Additionally, the project supported four local non-governmental organizations to deliver community-safety initiatives focusing on strengthening women safety from firearms-enabled domestic violence and networking civil society and institutional representatives for coordinated prevention.</li> <li>• The project delivered targeted suicide-prevention measures by developing a training curriculum and key awareness raising messages for suicide prevention targeting men with firearm access.</li> <li>• To advance gender-responsive policing the project continued to support regional cooperation of women police networks from Serbia and BiH, enabling valuable experience exchange on role of women in SALW control activity plan to strengthen the role of women in SALW control.</li> <li>• To promote ethical media practices regarding firearms-misuse, the project supported the <b>group “Journalists against Violence against Women” to prepare for and commence an analysis of media reporting on May 2023 mass shootings, with a view of developing guidance on trauma-informed reporting standards.</b></li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developed evidence-based recommendations for efficient prevention and lowering risks for domestic/partner-relationship violence, with special focus on cases involving firearms misuse. These recommendations are informing the Ministry of Justice working group currently drafting amendments to the Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence.</li> <li>• 26 policewomen strengthened bilateral cooperation, through third meeting of policewomen networks in Serbia and BiH, bringing together participants to exchange experiences and enhance skills in gender-responsive policing, and strengthen regional cooperation on gender equality and SALW-related issues.</li> <li>• Developed training of trainers program for health professionals, training curriculum and supporting materials, <b>providing a sustainable way of improving healthcare worker’s</b></li> </ul>

	<p>capacities to address risk of firearms misuse for gender-based and domestic violence, tailored to the needs and challenges health professionals face in everyday practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Initiated development of standardized, evidence-based tool for healthcare professionals to assess risks when issuing firearm licenses and for general practice firearm misuse risk prevention. Contributing to future policy change and systemic prevention, this pilot tool is being developed collaboratively with representatives from the ministries of health, interior, and justice, as well as key institutes and CSOs, ensuring future ownership and sustainability.</li><li>• 253 police officers (186 men and 67 women) from 41 municipalities trained through seven one-day workshops for risk assessment in domestic violence cases, including, firearms misuse risk, contributing to effective institutional response to domestic violence and long-term protection of survivors.</li><li>• 4 local <b>women's organizations</b> increased capacities to enhance community safety and support women at risk from firearms-enabled violence. Supported with grants, these organizations provided help-line assistance to 436 calls by women exposed to violence (including those in rural areas) and trained 203 women to better understand the risks of firearms misuse and encouraged to report violence.</li><li>• 102 local professionals were networked and over 1500 informative materials distributed to raise community awareness on the dangers of firearms-misuse for violence against women.</li><li>• 58 police psychologists (53 women and 5 men) exchanged experience on suicide prevention strategies in the police, through expert meeting gathering participants from MoI Department of Psychological Activities and police psychologists from the region (Slovenia, Hungary, Greece, Bosnia and Herzegovina).</li><li>• 11 army veterans (all men) trained to better understand risks associated with access to firearms and equipping them with knowledge and skills in responding to situations involving suicidal behavior, leveraging the power of peer connection. They were trained based on developed <b>training curriculum for enhancing civilians' knowledge on risks</b> associated with access to firearms and in responding to situations involving violent and suicidal behavior.</li><li>• Strengthened national trauma response capacity through sustained, expert-led supervision of 31 mental health professionals previously trained in Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for children, adolescents, and families affected by mass shootings. This follow-up support ensures the effective, ethical, and lasting application of evidence-based trauma care in Serbia, particularly in response to the May 2023 mass shootings.</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better understanding of needs and resources for survivors of mass shootings and frontline responders to improve response to crises (including firearms-related incidents and mass shootings), provide effective support in overcoming trauma and support victims.</li> <li>• Increased capacities of 11 women journalists and improved media reporting through the development of journalist guidelines that prioritize dignity, accuracy, and prevention-focused reporting in the aftermath of firearms-related incidents.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social unrest in Serbia has continued throughout the year. In terms of project implementation, the initial risk of unavailability of target beneficiaries from the police, stemming from their deployment to secure numerous protests throughout the jurisdiction, was successfully overcome thanks to the development of a context-sensitive activity plan, through close cooperation with Mol representatives. Civil society organizations supported by the project faced institutional reluctance to engage in local activities, requiring no-cost extensions of community-level initiatives and shifting focus of some activities. Thanks to the project team's adaptive management strategy, continued progress under volatile conditions was ensured.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of mapping and development of recommendations to improve mass shootings response.</li> <li>• Development of recommendations to support evidence-based strategic planning, improving the protection of victims and witnesses of crime (including those committed through firearms misuse).</li> <li>• Implementation of capacity building/advocacy activities of the Network of Women in the Police of Serbia, including support to the 4th regional Conference of the Network.</li> <li>• Continued work on development of assessment tool and guide to support medical evaluations within the healthcare system with a view of preventing firearms misuse.</li> <li>• Publishing of training curriculum and preparation of training of trainers for healthcare system representatives.</li> <li>• Continued work on analysis of media reporting on mass shootings and SALW.</li> <li>• Support to Mol awareness raising activities aimed at encouraging the reporting of (firearms-enabled) domestic violence to the police and informing on police steps once violence is reported.</li> </ul>

SUPPORTING COUNTRY/INSTITUTION	France/Directorate for Security and Defense Cooperation/ Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs <sup>10</sup>
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<sup>10</sup> The inputs presented in this document are as received in November 2024 from France/Directorate for Security and Defense Cooperation/ Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs ahead of the 12<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination Meeting held on 10-11 December 2024 as no new inputs have been received.

CONTACT PERSON	Mr. Olivier Buchbinder, Coordinator of the French Center of Expertise on Security in South-Eastern Europe, E-mail: <a href="mailto:olivier.buchbinder@diplomatie.gouv.fr">olivier.buchbinder@diplomatie.gouv.fr</a>
BENEFICIARY/IES	Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Kosovo, Albania
PROJECT DURATION	Four years
CONTRIBUTION AMOUNT (IF AVAILABLE)	EUR 2,100,100
OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donation of an automatic ballistic identification system in 3D and a software for processing technical information on weapons following seizures by law enforcement, allowing statistical data to be collected.</li> <li>• Allow WB6 jurisdictions to have an ABIS system and be able to make ballistic exchanges.</li> <li>• Allow WB6 jurisdictions to have a basis for registration of weapons information seized by law enforcement.</li> <li>• Allow WB6 jurisdictions to produce seized weapons statistics and analyzes and exchange with their neighbours and EU countries.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 2 and 3
ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (Beginning of the project – end of October 2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The program started in 2018 and the equipment are in place since 2022 in all WB6.</li> <li>• Albania and France have signed an agreement to link their ballistic databases by the end of 2023.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL END OF 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since Albania and France have signed an agreement to link their ballistic databases at the end of 2023, the technical implementation of this project will be carried out during 2024.</li> </ul>

## PARTIALLY FUNDED PROJECTS

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	<i>Norwegian People's Aid Bosnia and Herzegovina (NPA BiH)</i>
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PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Law Enforcement Agencies SALW Marking, Labelling and Registration Valerie Warmington, Country Director, NPA BiH, E-mail: <a href="mailto:valwar323@npaid.org">valwar323@npaid.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	2022 - ongoing
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Law Enforcement Agencies in BiH
DONOR	NMFA/NORAD, UNSCAR
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 450,000
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	1,600,000
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	Implementation of Small Arms Light Weapons (SALW) stockpile management procedures and processes; training for and oversight of SALW marking, labelling and registration activities; SALW management digitalization; inclusion of women in arms violence reduction, conflict prevention and recovery efforts.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 2 and 5
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 2: Fully integrate gender and age concerns in arms control policies and prioritize meaningful participation of women in policymaking. Goal 5: Strengthen the capacities of relevant institutions of the jurisdictions to implement LCM of SALW and ammunition.
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>SALW marking and registration systems have been fully implemented in Brčko District, Posavina Canton, and Canton 10.</b> Implementation is currently underway at the federal entity level with the Federal Police Administration in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, BiH.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The marking, registration, and labeling software was successfully deployed in Brčko District, Posavina Canton, and Canton 10.</b> These deployments have enabled digital traceability of firearms, strengthened institutional control, and ensured sustainable system use through trained police personnel.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to sufficient funding to appropriately scale the work for completion across BiH by end 2026.</li> </ul>

ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implementation is ongoing with the Federal Police Administration, with preparatory work underway in one additional Canton.</li></ul>
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ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	OSCE Presence in Albania
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Assisting the Authorities in Albania to Decrease the Risk of Weapon Proliferation and Misuse of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) Xhenis Ballço –Project Officer – OSCE PiA; E-mail: <a href="mailto:Xhenis.Ballco@osce.org">Xhenis.Ballco@osce.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	August 2021 – June 2026
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministries, institutions and citizens of Albania
DONOR	Germany, France, EU
PROJECT FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 1,998,883
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	EUR 243,835
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<p>The Project aims to support the efforts of the MoI and other Albanian authorities in obtaining necessary technical assistance; expertise; resources and equipment that will enable them strengthening their preventive, investigative and management capabilities on SALW control and non-proliferation. Such an approach will continue in the process of addressing the following three priority areas as identified by the MoI and ASP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for the establishment of a comprehensive legislative framework for the deactivation of firearms and its due implementation;</li> <li>• Build the capacities of the ASP in strengthening their canine (K9) capabilities in detecting SALW, ammunition, and explosives;</li> <li>• Increase the capacities of Albanian authorities in raising public awareness on the dangers of misuse and proliferation of SALW.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goals 1 to 5
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete and regularly review the legal framework to regulate production and trade as well as counter illegal trade of arms, ammunition, dual-use goods and military equipment in line with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness and education among the general population, on the danger of WAE.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematically decrease surplus stockpile of SALW, ammunition and explosives through destruction in an environmentally benign manner and through other means.</li> </ul>
<p>ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Under preparation is the third amendment of the Project, which envisages an enhancement of the overall budget and the inclusion of additional activities, in alignment with the three priority intervention areas, as requested by the Government of Albania;</li> <li>• Construction permit issued by the Territory Development Agency for the K9 Institute and the Deactivation Center;</li> <li>• Started the Construction works and Supervision services for retrofitting of the existing building to become the Deactivation Centre of SALW. Completed the Mobilization Phase, Site Preparation, Demolition works, flooring works, strengthening of joints (column-beams) with steel plates, Masonry brick wall works, and Plastering works.</li> <li>• Organized exchange visit on deactivation and certification processes for four (4 men) representatives of Albanian State Police, in cooperation with the accredited European institution Banc National d’Epreuve in Saint Etienne, France from 25 to 28 May 2025. The visit served as a platform for exchanging expertise and best practices on deactivation and certification processes, thereby fostering alignment of procedures with EU standards.</li> <li>• The Training Manual “Training and Operational Use of Service Dogs of the State Police of Albania” was printed for the beneficiaries’ perusal, and donated through a ceremony in October 2025;</li> <li>• Ensured the donation of one K9 (service dog) from the Republic of France in June 2025, thereby enabling the continuation of the training activities and the subsequent certification process.</li> <li>• In coordination with the SALW OSCE Mission in Kosovo and with the French Gendarmerie supporting the ongoing successful completion of the final certification phase of the SAMBI training;</li> <li>• Supported the integration of an additional female officer within the ASP K9 units in June 2025, who is currently undergoing training at the ASP Canine Training Institute, thereby advancing gender inclusion within this specialized field.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Started the Construction works and Supervision services for the retrofitting of four dog buildings with Kennels and the refurbishing of two ambulatory rooms of the Veterinary Clinic. Completed the Mobilization Phase, Site Preparation, and Demolition works while construction of masonry brick walls, including reinforced-concrete bonding beams, is in process;</li> <li>• In April 2025, presentation of the awareness-raising strategy and its action plan to the research students at the Faculty of Law, University of Tirana. Organized by the partner organization Woman Centre for Development and Culture Albania, this briefing informed the students about strategies and perspectives on security issues;</li> <li>• Finalized the handbook <b>“Beyond the Headlines: A Journalist’s Guide to Reporting on Security, SALW, and Gender-Based Violence in Albania”</b> for the usage of the recipients and media outlets. The document is available to the general public through the OSCE website: <a href="https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/2/c/592592.pdf">https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/2/c/592592.pdf</a> ;</li> <li>• Based on the developed handbook, the project has organized a training for 10 (ten) journalists (4 women and 6 men) from Albanian media outlets in June 2025, aimed at enhancing the quality of reporting on security and SALW-related incidents with particular attention to gender-based violence issues. The interactive workshop, supported by a local expert and featuring contributions from civil society, SEESAC, and international media professionals, thus fostering the exchange of best practices and promoted principles of responsible and gender issues reporting;</li> <li>• Coordination efforts have started for the distribution of the printed handbook <b>“Beyond the Headlines: A Journalist’s Guide to Reporting on Security, SALW, and Gender-Based Violence in Albania”</b> to journalists, beneficiaries, and other relevant stakeholders.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<p>Capacities for deactivation of firearms significantly improved through provision of equipment, training, and exchanges of experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The developed Training Manual on deactivation processes is included in the Security Academy curricula ensuring so the sustainability of the procees and that the personnel is fully trained;</li> <li>• The construction of a fully equipped SALW Deactivation Centre initiated;</li> <li>• Training Manual <b>“Training and Operational Use of Service Dogs of the State Police”</b> developed..</li> <li>• K9 capacities including of the Canine Training Institute significantly improved following dedicated assessments, development of standard operating procedures, study visits, training, vehicles and improvement of kennel buildings.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment of the needs, requirements, benefits and potential impact of an amnesty/voluntary surrender of illicit SALW, ammunition and explosives in Albania conducted;</li> <li>• Awareness Raising and Communication Strategy for the project beneficiaries and relevant stakeholders;</li> <li>• Conducted the pre-assessment of the campaign with a small-scale audience online to measure the perception/attitudes of the Albanian population on SALW, set the baseline of the campaign and test the campaign messaging;</li> <li>• Capacities to design and implement awareness raising campaigns on the risks and misuse of firearms further enhanced;</li> <li>• Two awareness raising campaigns implemented focused on combating gender-based violence related to SALW and youth engagement and better integration of CSOs in awareness planning and implementation ensured;</li> <li>• Strengthened cooperation and engagement with local communities in planning awareness raising campaigns and outreach activities;</li> <li>• Expanded outreach and awareness of school students, teachers, youth and women.</li> <li>• Better understanding of the perception/attitudes towards firearms</li> <li>• Strengthened capacities of media in reporting of firearms related incidents as well as cooperation and exchange of experience among Albanian and Serbian journalists covering security and SALW issues.</li> <li>• Finalized the monitoring of the current state of media reporting and an assessment of the capacity building needs for the journalists covering SALW and gender-based violence related to SALW affairs and shared with SEESAC;</li> <li>• Successfully facilitated the inclusion of the first female canine handler who received the training in 2024, marking a significant milestone in promoting gender diversity and equality in this field;</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased prices for goods and services on local and international markets, and rising inflation.</li> <li>• Local elections and changes in the leadership of MOI and ASP.</li> <li>• Continuous change of priorities of the beneficiary.</li> <li>• Limited funds within limited and restricted timelines of implementation.</li> <li>• Limited pool of bidders in the construction sector, and for specialized equipment.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finishing the construction works related to retrofitting the Deactivation Centre for SALW;</li> <li>• Provision of the installation services of the deactivation equipment in the finalized construction site and the delivery of the relevant training on their usage;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage Banc National d'Épreuve to deliver Trainings for deactivation;</li> <li>• Coordinate the organization of the final certification for the SAMBI training by the French Gendarmerie, followed subsequently by the delivery of the “Training of Trainers” to the future dog handlers at the Albanian State Police Canine Training Institute;</li> <li>• Complete the construction works related to the retrofitting of four dog building Kennels and the refurbishing of two ambulatory rooms of the Veterinary Clinic.</li> </ul>
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ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	OSCE Mission to BiH
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Addressing security and safety risks of illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW and their ammunition in Bosnia and Herzegovina  Mr. Andrei Sarban, Project Manager, Department for Security Co-operation (DSC) E-mail: <a href="mailto:andrei.sarban@osce.org">andrei.sarban@osce.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	1 November 2020 - 30 September 2026
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Law enforcement agencies (LEAs) including entity and cantonal ministries of interior (Mols)/police agencies; SALW Control Co-ordination Board; BiH Ministry of Security (MoS); <i>Prosecutors' offices, courts and penitentiary services; population of BiH; OSCE participating States from SEE.</i>
DONOR	Austria (in-kind contribution), Czech Republic, EU, Germany, France, Lichtenstein, Norway, Slovakia, Turkey and the United States of America
FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 5,321,352
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	EUR 1,399,718
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	To support BiH in mitigating security and safety risks related to illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW and their ammunition.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 1 to 5
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete and regularly review the legal framework to regulate production, acquisition and possession for civil use as well as counter trafficking and misuse of weapons and ammunition in line with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations.</li> </ul>

	<p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness and education among the general population, on the danger of WAE.</li> <li>• Increase awareness to reduce the misuse of firearms in violence against women and girls, domestic violence and other forms of GBV, as well as awareness among young men on the dangers of misuse of weapons and explosives and their engagement through targeted programs.</li> <li>• Increase public awareness of the dangers of celebratory shooting.</li> <li>• Systematically use deactivation to reduce illegal possession of firearms.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure safe and secure SALW, ammunition and explosive storage facilities based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.</li> </ul>
<p>ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – October 2025)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided continued support to the BiH SALW Control Coordination Board (CCB) in strengthening institutional outreach and awareness-raising on SALW control.</li> <li>• Organized and delivered an advanced, hands-on training for twenty (20) Intruder Detection System (IDS) operators in Široki Brijeg, utilizing practical exercises and real-life scenarios to maximize learning outcomes and operational readiness.</li> <li>• Supported BiH SALW CCB in convening the fourth in a series of awareness-raising meetings on the challenges associated with SALW.</li> <li>• Supported targeted advocacy efforts aimed at harmonizing firearms legislation across BiH jurisdictions</li> <li>• Co-organized and supported the participation of BiH beneficiaries in the Regional K9 FRONTEx Training (Modules 2, 3, 4, 5, and Professional Test) held in Skopje, contributing to the regional standardization of dog handler certification processes.</li> <li>• In co-operation with the Secretariat and the French Gendarmerie, co-organized a specialized K9 training in Gramat, France, for two beneficiaries from BiH law enforcement agencies (LEAs).</li> <li>• Supported the organization of the Regional K9 Training on Deployment in Challenging Environments, held in Skopje and Ohrid, North Macedonia.</li> <li>• Completed infrastructure upgrades at six (6) designated K9 units across selected BiH locations, significantly improving their operational conditions and efficiency.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organized and supported specialized training sessions on the application of the Guidelines for the Use of K9 Capacity in Detecting SALW, including an Exhibition and Demonstration of Skills by BiH K9 Units, conducted in cooperation with Guardia Civil K9 experts from Spain.</li> <li>• Contracted the Banc National d'Épreuve de Saint-Étienne to deliver expertise, conduct assessments, and provide certified training on the proper deactivation procedures for SALW within BiH law enforcement agencies.</li> <li>• Organized an assessment visit to BiH for three representatives from Banc National d'Épreuve de Saint-Étienne, enabling technical evaluation and capacity exchange.</li> <li>• Completed and inaugurated the Verification Centre for Deactivated Firearms at the Tuzla Canton Ministry of Interior, marking a milestone in BiH's firearms control infrastructure development.</li> <li>• Commenced infrastructure upgrading works at the SALW deactivation facility in Banja Luka (Zalužani), aimed at enhancing deactivation capacities.</li> <li>• Convened a preparatory meeting between BiH deactivation professionals and representatives of the Banc National d'Épreuve de Saint-Étienne to align procedures and technical standards.</li> <li>• Procured and installed two state-of-the-art laser marking machines and organized corresponding training sessions for personnel responsible for marking deactivated firearms, ensuring full compliance with EU marking standards.</li> </ul>
<p>KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful approval of the Draft Firearms Law in Canton 10.</li> <li>• Construction works at all ten (10) SALW storage facilities, Banja Luka, Bihać, Doboј, Foča, Konjic, Livno, Lukavac, Prijedor, Zenica, and Zvornik, were completed.</li> <li>• Intruder Detection System (IDS) equipment was installed at each site. All facilities became fully operational following the delivery and installation of furniture and technical equipment.</li> <li>• The Training Manual and Programme on Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) were finalized.</li> <li>• Delivered basic and advanced SALW PSSM training to 22 representatives from BiH LEAs.</li> <li>• The Guidelines for the Enhancement of Inter-Institutional Communication and Outreach on SALW in BiH, along with a Methodology for Monitoring and Evaluation of Public Outreach, were finalized.</li> <li>• Trained 25 Public Relations and Communication Officers from beneficiary LEAs and the SALW CB, who have begun implementing the Guidelines and Framework in their reporting on SALW-related incidents.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In partnership with the Police Women’s Network Association and the RS MoI Women’s Network (RS WPON), the Project facilitated inter-institutional dialogue and conducted a gender analysis on the misuse of SALW.</li> <li>• Delivered specialized training for 20 participants on the misuse of firearms in cases of gender-based and domestic violence, and supported a WG meeting involving two (2) women police officers’ associations and the BiH Ministry of Security’s Gender Coordination Board.</li> <li>• Improved K9 capacities through training, exchange of expertise, infrastructure improvement, specialized vehicles, development and application of K9 guidelines.</li> <li>• Supported the participation of two (2) BiH LEA representatives in the Regional Conference on Internal Police Investigations, held in Priština, Kosovo, focusing on strengthening internal control mechanisms and enhancing community trust in police institutions.</li> <li>• Deactivation capacities improved through infrastructure upgrades at the Tuzla Canton MoI deactivation facility, installation of deactivation equipment for two (2) SALW deactivation facilities located in Tuzla and Banja Luka.</li> </ul>
<p>MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rising prices of goods and services, driven by supply chain disruptions and reduced availability, are affecting construction and procurement activities.</li> <li>• Challenges in sourcing the necessary expertise locally and internationally.</li> <li>• Co-ordination delays between a large number of beneficiaries across different levels of governance.</li> <li>• A rapidly changing and volatile political and security landscape.</li> <li>• Limited supplier engagement and a low number of interested vendors.</li> <li>• Impact of the ongoing regional political and economic crises impacting BiH.</li> <li>• Project funding gap of EUR 1,434,030</li> </ul>
<p>ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting the BiH SALW CCB in its inter-institutional coordination on SALW-related matters, enhancing their visibility and operational role.</li> <li>• Continuing efforts to promote and increase the meaningful participation of women in all Project-related events and activities.</li> <li>• Planning the new regional K9 training in Skopje, North Macedonia, and coordinating with FRONTEX to explore additional training opportunities for BiH K9 experts;</li> <li>• Initiating the K9 infrastructure upgrade works at one (1) K9 unit location.</li> <li>• <b>Completing the deactivation facility upgrade works in Banja Luka (Zalužani).</b></li> <li>• Co-ordinating and supporting the implementation of activities aimed at strengthening the capacities of BiH LEAs in the collection and sharing of data/information on cases of SALW criminal misuse.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting and organizing a new round of SALW institutional outreach and awareness-raising activities in Mostar and/or Banja Luka.</li> <li>• Organizing a handover ceremony for the K9 Unit facility at the Border Police BiH, Airport Sarajevo, planned for Q4 2025.</li> <li>• Supporting efforts to introduce necessary amendments to the Law on Firearms and Ammunition of Tuzla Canton and Republika Srpska.</li> </ul>
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ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	OSCE Mission in Kosovo
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Support to the strengthening of the Canine (K-9) capacity of the police services to detect and confiscate SALW, ammunition and explosives  Mr. Betim Llapashtica, Activity Manager, E-mail: <a href="mailto:betim.llapashtica@osce.org">betim.llapashtica@osce.org</a> Mr. Fatos Kuqani, Project Officer, E-mail: <a href="mailto:fatos.kuqani@osce.org">fatos.kuqani@osce.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	1 September 2020 – 31 December 2027
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministry of Internal Affairs, Police/ K9 Unit
DONOR	Federal Republic of Germany, France, European Union, Norway
FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 1,066,317
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	EUR 150,000
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the strengthening of the existing K-9 capability of Kosovo Police and its direct contribution towards prevention, suppression and investigation of SALW, ammunition, and explosives misuse and trafficking in the Western Balkans.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 3:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procured additional construction works for the existing Kennels at the K9 Camp Vrelle.</li> <li>Procurement and delivery of five (5) specialized vehicles for the K9 unit, in June 2025.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The policy and regulatory framework was strengthened, operational knowledge and training were enhanced, and the K9 units' infrastructure and equipment were upgraded—collectively improving their ability to detect, prevent, and support investigations into the misuse and trafficking of SALW, ammunition, and explosives.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing prices of goods and services on local and international markets due to supply chain disruptions and decreasing supply are having adverse effects on planned project activities, especially those involving construction works and purchases.</li> <li>Fluctuating construction costs due to rising labor and material prices.</li> <li>Difficulties in finding the required local and international expertise.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	OSCE Mission to Montenegro
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Mitigation of Safety and Security Risks related to SALW/SCA in Montenegro; Mr. Johan Dahl, Project Officer, E-mail: <a href="mailto:johan.dahl@osce.org">johan.dahl@osce.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	November 2020 – December 2026
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministry of Defense – Armed Forces of Montenegro, Ministry of Interior
DONOR	Austria, France, Germany, Hungary, Norway, Montenegro, Slovakia, Switzerland
PROJECT FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 2,171,776
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	EUR 741,446

PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhanced strategic, training and coordination capacities of the Ministry of Defence and other accountable and equitable government bodies in the field of SALW/SCA management.</li> <li>Support in establishing an SCA surveillance framework.</li> <li>Support in introducing capabilities to transport SALW/SCA in a safe and secure way according to international good practice.</li> <li>Support in reconstruction of the storage site "Brezovik" and "Nova lokacija" Židovići – Pljevlja.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 5.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strengthen the capacities of relevant institutions of the jurisdictions to implement LCM of SALW and ammunition.</li> <li>Ensure safe and secure SALW, ammunition and explosive storage facilities based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procured and donated firefighting equipment for the firefighting training polygon at the military airport in Podgorica.</li> <li>Conducted two firefighting training courses with in-kind support from the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), 20 members of the armed forces attended the two training courses.</li> <li>Conducted five Individual First Aid Kit (IFAK) training courses with in-kind support from Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB), 64 members of the armed forces attended the five training courses.</li> <li>The Austrian Mobile Advisory and Training Team (MATT AUT), with support from the OSCE Mission, conducted two training courses, the Theoretical Basic Ammunition Course and the Practical Basic Ammunition Course, attended by specialists from the Armed Forces of Montenegro.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The project completed the Hazard Classification of Montenegro's Military Explosives and Munitions including Police ammunition according to NATO Guidelines for Storage of Military Ammunitions (AASTP-1, 2015) and IATG: 01.50 - UN explosive hazard classification system and 90 codes. In the process of hazard classification, all ammunitions were updated from the "Nomenklturni broj JNA". The final draft was delivered to the MoD and Mol for their further ownership.</li> <li>The project finalized the Rulebook on safes storage of ammunition according to NATO standard AASTP 1c (2023), the rulebook is pending adoption.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project completed the Explosive Limit Licensing inspections of three of MoD's ammunition storage site Brezovik, Taraš and "Nova lokacija" Židovići, the findings are pending adoption.</li> <li>• Under capacity building initiatives with the MoD and the Armed Forces of Montenegro the project delivered 26 workshops and training courses attended by 229 participants (36 woman and 193 men) by the end of 2025.</li> <li>• Two classrooms and one office were refurbished with tools and supplies for technical training courses for the dedicated MoD ammunition training facility in Podgorica.</li> <li>• ADR capacities were improved through training and certification under the Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) (valid for 5 years) for 10 specialists from the Montenegrin Army, Air Force and Navy and delivery of two ADR trucks to the MoD for ammunition transportation.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The formation of a Technical Authority and its institutionalization is delayed due to the political situation and senior management turnover.</li> <li>• Inflation and world market price increases have impacted the project budget, and the budget has been increased to meet the changes.</li> <li>• Beneficiaries need to budget for life-cycle costs and sustainability of the project results from 2027 onwards.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project will be preparing for the procurement of additional firefighting equipment and preparing for activities planned for 2026.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	OSCE Mission to Montenegro
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Strengthening the Capacities of the Montenegrin Ministry of Interior to More Effectively Reduce, Prevent, and Counter Illicit Trafficking and Misuse of Small Arms and Light Weapons, Ammunition, and Explosives;  Ms. Zorica Blagojević, Project Officer, E-mail: <a href="mailto:Zorica.Blagojevic@osce.org">Zorica.Blagojevic@osce.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	1 April 2025 – 31 December 2028
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministry of Interior of Montenegro

DONOR	EU, France, Germany, and Norway
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 1,601,323
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	EUR 1,197,356
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<p>To enhance the MoI's capability to reduce, prevent, and counter the trafficking and misuse of SALW, ammunition, and explosives by December 2028.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The capacities of K9 units of law enforcement institutions under the MoI to detect illicit SALW, ammunition, and explosives are enhanced.</li> <li>• The legal framework on the deactivation of firearms is improved and aligned with international standards, and capacities for its effective implementation and oversight are strengthened.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S (pls specify the goal/s)	Goal 3 and 4
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S (pls specify the target/s)	<p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> <li>• Strengthen bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and platforms to counter misuse, illicit manufacturing, possession and trafficking of WAE.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematically use deactivation to reduce illegal possession of firearms.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD (January – end October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In support of the development of the legal and institutional framework for the deactivation of SALW, Banc National d'Épreuve de Saint-Étienne (BNE) was engaged to provide comprehensive advisory services in the field of deactivation.</li> <li>• BNE conducted an in-depth assessment of the existing legislative framework for deactivation, along with an on-site visit to assess capacities and existing mechanisms for deactivation.</li> <li>• Two Montenegrin participants (both men) completed the FRONTEX Regional Certification Program on Product Scents in Skopje.</li> <li>• A Montenegrin team of K9 officers (2 women and 3 men) participated in a regional exercise on K9 deployment in challenging environments in North Macedonia.</li> <li>• The first assessment of construction works needed at the K9 Headquarters of the Border Police and at several border crossing points has been completed.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A needs assessment for improvements of K9 kennels, K9 transportation, and procurement of K9 equipment has been initiated.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The first assessment of construction works at the K9 Headquarters of the Border Police and several border crossing points has been completed, and a needs assessment for improvements to K9 kennels, transportation, and equipment procurement has been initiated. The findings will inform and shape other segments of this project.</li> <li>• An in-depth assessment of the existing legislative framework and an on-site visit to deactivation capacities in the country have been conducted.</li> <li>• Capacity building of K9 officers has been improved.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED IN THE REPORTING PERIOD	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement of four K9 specialized vehicles for Border Police and Special Purpose Police Units;</li> <li>• Finalization of needs assessment for construction works and preparation of the detailed design;</li> <li>• BNE will deliver a training course on deactivation in Montenegro and the selection of candidates to be trained in France;</li> <li>• Finalization of the timetable for the launch of the FRONTEX – Regional K9 Certification Program 2026.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	OSCE Mission to Serbia
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<p><i>ExB Project: “Strengthening the capacities of the Serbian Ministry of Interior to more effectively reduce, prevent, and counter illicit trafficking and misuse of Small Arms and Light Weapons, ammunition and explosives”</i></p> <p>Project Manager: Ms. Ana Petrovic Jovanovic, Legal Adviser, OSCE Mission to Serbia, E-mail: <a href="mailto:ana.petrovic-jovanovic@osce.org">ana.petrovic-jovanovic@osce.org</a></p>
PROJECT DURATION	February 2022 – October 2025
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministry of Interior, Agency for Marking, Branding, Testing, and Deactivation of Firearms and Ammunition
DONOR	European Union, France and Germany

PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 1,855,696
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	EUR 278,884
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	To strengthen the capacities of the Ministry of Interior (Mol) by developing and implementing legal framework for SALW deactivation and the use of service dogs for detection of SALW, ammunition and explosives, thus contributing to the enhancement of the Mol capabilities to reduce, prevent, and counter trafficking and misuse of SALW, ammunition and explosives in Serbia.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 1 and 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete and regularly review the legal framework to regulate production, acquisition and possession for civil use as well as counter trafficking and misuse of weapons and ammunition in line with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevent and counter trafficking, misuse, illicit manufacturing, and possession of WAE through improved procedures, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement and criminal justice entities.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In March 2025, an advertising agency was hired to produce promotional video, leaflets and poster that will promote the participation of female police officers in K9 Unites. This initiative co-ordinated with the Women Police Network within the Serbian Mol.</li> <li>On 15 July 2025, Amendment No. 2 of the Project Proposal was approved, enabling an eleven-month extension from October 2025 to September 2026.</li> </ul> <p>Result 1: The legal framework on deactivation is improved and harmonized with international standards and best practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In May and July 2025, the French National Proof House (BNE – Saint-Étienne) conducted two expert missions to Serbia to support the development of the national normative and institutional framework for SALW deactivation; the missions included meetings with the Mol and the Deactivation Agency, field visits to public and private deactivation facilities to assess current practices, and resulted in a comprehensive legal analysis of Serbia's deactivation framework, with findings and recommendations formally submitted to the Mol and the Kragujevac Agency in August 2025.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In July 2025, limited infrastructural upgrades at the Deactivation Agency in Kragujevac started.</li> <li>• In October 2025, a three-day pre-selection training for deactivation technicians and inspectors was organized at the Deactivation Agency in Kragujevac.</li> </ul> <p>Result 2: The capacity of the MoI K9 Unit to detect illicit SALW, ammunition and explosives are enhanced in compliance with human rights standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In June 2024, the tender for the procurement of the equipment for enhancing the capacity of the K9 Unit was completed. The Donation Agreement was signed on 24 September 2024, and the equipment was delivered in January 2025.</li> <li>• In June 2024, the Project contracted an international expert to support the development of the SOP and the K9 Master Plan and provide support to the WG in developing a comprehensive and sustainable long-term strategy for the transformation of the K9 Unit.</li> <li>• In August 2024, the tender for the procurement of specialized K9 vehicles was completed, and two vehicles were delivered in May 2025.</li> <li>• In October 2024, the tender for Project Design services for the K9 facility Bežanijska kosa was published for the infrastructural upgrades of the K9 Unit and completed in September 2025.</li> <li>• In June 2025, a training and certification mission by the French Dog Training Centre of the Gendarmerie (CNICG) was successfully completed.</li> <li>• In August 2025, a three-day SOP development workshop was held, gathering eight MoI representatives, followed by a technical finalization session with five participants to consolidate the document.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A comprehensive legal analysis of the Serbian legislative framework on SALW deactivation, identifying areas for harmonization with EU and OSCE standards completed through BNE – Saint-Étienne.</li> <li>• Detailed infrastructure designs for the Deactivation Agency facility in Kragujevac and the K9 Facility in Bežanijska kosa were completed and approved.</li> <li>• Strengthened K9 capacities through a K9 Master Plan, two Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the use and deployment of K9, training and certification of two K9 teams, delivery of specialized equipment, delivery of specialized vehicles.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complex internal coordination of the MoI, coupled with every so often conflicting views regarding core activities of the project, with lengthy procedures enabling meetings with Focal Points.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inflation and the rising prices of construction materials and labor also restricted the limited funding for design and construction work.</li> <li>• Lengthy procedures and strict regulations on the import of some of the K9 equipment.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement of limited equipment and consumables to the Deactivation Agency.</li> <li>• Complete and distribute visibility materials encouraging women police officers to join the K9 Unit.</li> <li>• Completion of the limited infrastructural upgrade at the Deactivation Agency.</li> <li>• Continued support to the Mol's Working Group for the development of the Standard Operating Procedures for the use of K9 Capacities, as well as the K9 Master Plan.</li> <li>• Organization of a study visit to Austria and Slovakia for K9 officers, facilitating exchanges with police units and donor representatives, and strengthening the operational capacity of Serbia's K9 Unit in detecting illicit SALW and explosives.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	OSCE Mission to Skopje
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Assisting the Authorities of North Macedonia to Decrease the Risk of Weapon Proliferation and Misuse of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)  Mr. Malte Grohmann, Project Coordinator, Public Safety and Community Outreach, E-mail: <a href="mailto:malte.grohmann@osce.org">malte.grohmann@osce.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	May 2020 – December 2027
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	The main stakeholders of the project are the bodies and institutions implementing the SALW Strategy and Action Plan, such as the SALW Commission, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and other ministries, and the general population
DONOR	United States, Germany, European Union, Belgium, France, Norway, and Slovakia
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 7,500,000
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	EUR 2,569,977

PROJECT OBJECTIVES	The overall objective is to support the Government of North Macedonia to implement international commitments in the field of SALW proliferation and contribute to security and stability in North Macedonia.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 3 to 5
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop/align SALW strategies and/or the Action Plans with the Roadmap.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness among licensed private and legal entities (including arms, ammunition, and explosive producers, brokers, traders, transport companies, and collectors) about the danger of misuse, illicit proliferation, and risks of diversion of arms, ammunition, and explosives.</li> <li>• Increase awareness and education among the general population on the danger of WAE.</li> <li>• Increase awareness to reduce the misuse of firearms in violence against women and girls, domestic violence, and other forms of GBV, as well as awareness among young men on the dangers of misuse of weapons and explosives and their engagement through targeted programs.</li> <li>• Systematically use the legalization of firearms and voluntary surrender of WAE as means for reducing illicit possession and misuse.</li> <li>• Systematically use deactivation to reduce illegal possession of firearms.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematically decrease surplus stockpile of SALW, ammunition, and explosives through destruction in an environmentally benign manner and through other means.</li> <li>• Strengthen the capacities of relevant institutions of the jurisdictions to implement LCM of SALW and ammunition.</li> <li>• Ensure safe and secure SALW, ammunition, and explosive storage facilities based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.</li> <li>• Strengthen the capacities of institutions for monitoring, oversight, and evaluation of the WAE stocks of legal entities and individuals.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end of October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The construction design company completed the review and amendment of the existing detailed designs for the K9 locations in Strumica, Stip, Bogorodica, Gostivar, and Ohrid.</li> <li>• The regional FRONTEX Certification Program for Dog Handlers on Product Scent was completed by the implementation of Module 4, Module 5, and the Professional Test in the reporting period.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The standard operating procedure documents for weapons, ammunition, and explosives destruction were finalized.</li> <li>• The standard operating procedure (guideline) on marking and registration of deactivated firearms was finalized.</li> <li>• The assessment report, representing a comprehensive overview of the deactivation processes in the country, as well as recommendations for improvement, was prepared and shared by the Banc National d'Épreuve de Saint-Etienne.</li> <li>• A specialized training for SALW Neutralization and Deactivation by the Banc National d'Épreuve de Saint-Étienne commenced with the implementation of the first phase, In-Country Training and Candidate Selection, and the Theoretical and Practical Training for Deactivators.</li> <li>• The project's Construction Manager prepared the layout and Bill of Quantities for the infrastructure upgrade of the Weapons Maintenance and Deactivation Workshop</li> <li>• A storage container was procured and installed at the Regional K9 Training and Certification Center to provide storage space for the K9 Unit for operational equipment that will support operational readiness and K9 deployment.</li> <li>• The project team hired an international expert to support the Ministry of Internal Affairs in developing a K9 Regulatory Framework and assist in the implementation of the K9 Masterplan. The Regulatory Framework document was developed and shared with relevant units within the Ministry of Internal Affairs for their review.</li> <li>• The service provider engaged to develop a public awareness campaign highlighting the threats posed by SALW, with a specific focus on youth, developed the campaign plan outline for the selected campaign concept.</li> <li>• A regional K9 Training on Deployment in Challenging Environments, with the support of the German Federal Dog Rescue Association and the Union for Mountain Rescue, was conducted in Skopje and Ohrid.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R.5.1 One SOP on weapon deactivation and deactivation verification adopted by the MoIA.</li> <li>• R5.1B One SOP on the destruction of weapons, ammunition, and explosives by Q4 2025.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delays due to the election process in October impacted the progress.</li> <li>• Delays in the implementation of the campaign due to internal organizational constraints and procurement procedures.</li> <li>• Delays in the process due to the Ministry's necessary prioritization of urgent matters in response to the recent tragedy.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delays due to the Ministry's decision process on centralizing or decentralizing the deactivation processes.</li> <li>• Delays in the initiation of infrastructure upgrades of the Weapons Maintenance and Deactivation Workshop due to the Ministry's decision on an adequate location.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch an awareness-raising campaign on SALW threats targeting youth, with a focus on the dangers of the misuse of firearms.</li> <li>• Finalize and officially adopt the Masterplan for K9 Transformation.</li> <li>• Set conditions for the implementation of the K9 Masterplan.</li> <li>• Complete specialized training for SALW Neutralization and Deactivation by the Banc National d'Épreuve de Saint-Étienne by implementing the Theoretical and Practical Training for inspectors.</li> <li>• Commence construction works for the infrastructure upgrade of the K9 site in Strumica</li> <li>• Tender preparations and initiation of the tender procedure for the infrastructure upgrade of the Weapons Deactivation and Maintenance Workshop.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	OSCE Secretariat
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Strengthening OSCE action against the illicit proliferation of Small Arms & Light Weapons (SALW) and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (SCA) - Phase Mr. Slobodan Boskovic, Project Officer, CPC/FSC Support Section, E-mail: <a href="mailto:slobodan.boskovic@osce.org">slobodan.boskovic@osce.org</a> .
PROJECT DURATION	January 2023 – December 2028
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	OSCE Region – OSCE assistance providing pS, assistance requesting pS, Secretariat, OSCE Institutions, and the Field Operations
DONOR	European Union, Germany, France, Switzerland, Slovakia, Liechtenstein, Poland, Norway
FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 2,626,926
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	EUR 1,595,548
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	The project provides policy and technical advice and support to OSCE pS, Secretariat, OSCE Institutions, and the FO's to better conceptualize, plan and implement their commitments

	against the illicit proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), and Conventional Ammunition (CA).
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 5.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen the capacities of relevant institutions of the jurisdictions to implement LCM of SALW and ammunition.</li> <li>• Strengthen the capacities of institutions for monitoring, oversight and evaluation of the WAE stocks of legal entities and individuals.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (January – end October 2025)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In March, the PIT organized several coordination calls with the beneficiaries in Pristina, and experts from the BNE to discuss how to finalize the firearms deactivation activities under the ongoing Implementation Partners Agreement. Launched in 2024, this activity experienced delays in its final phase due to the snap elections in Kosovo and challenges securing an appropriate physical location to accommodate the basic tools and equipment needed to establish a sustainable deactivation process.</li> <li>• On 07 April, the Project held the 1st Steering Board Meeting on the implementation of EUCD (CFSP) 2024/3097 in support of SALW Control in South-Eastern Europe (SEE). The meeting assessed the overall implementation of SALW and CA control activities in South-Eastern Europe (SEE).</li> <li>• Organized regular meetings of Politico-Military focal points, gathering the network of the FSC SU and OSCE FO project practitioners to discuss the progress and challenges implementing SALW and SCA projects,</li> <li>• 28-29 April, as part of the OSCE delegation, the PIT took part in the twelfth meeting of the Working Group on Firearms, convened by UNODC, held in person at the Vienna International Centre, Vienna, to hear authorities across the globe discussing the latest challenges and trends in SALW control.</li> <li>• Throughout April 2025, the Project promoted two new e-learning modules placed on the OSCE e-learning platform – Theory of Deactivating Small Arms and Light Weapons and Practice on Deactivating Small Arms and Light Weapons.</li> <li>• Together with the SALW ExB projects in Tirana, Skopje, and Belgrade, Project Implementation Team (PIT) facilitated the launch of co-operation between the SALW Deactivation Proof House in Saint Etienne (BNE) and the authorities in each jurisdiction.</li> <li>• On 15 May, in cooperation with the OSCE Secretariat's Transnational Threats Department, Border Security and Management Unit, the project supported the delivery of a training "Identifying and Addressing Trafficking in SALW and CA" held in Bar, Montenegro. The</li> </ul>

	<p>training was delivered in person to a group of 15 senior officers from the Montenegrin Police and Border Police.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On 26 June, PIT supported the Estonian FSC Chairmanship in organizing the “Informal meeting on strengthening OSCE action against the illicit proliferation of SALW and SCA in SEE”, held in person in Hofburg. The PIT also used the briefing opportunity to promote once again the functionalities and overall performance of the web page “Portfolio of OSCE Practical Assistance Projects on SALW/SCA” (<a href="http://www.salw.osce.org">www.salw.osce.org</a>).</li> <li>• The PIT finalized two interconnected guidance documents on developing and using SALW search and detection dog capabilities of OSCE pS, as well as the Matrix of K9 Assistance across the OSCE Region. While the GNAP outlines the strategic framework and priorities for developing K9 capabilities, the Matrix Document offers a detailed overview of the technical assistance and operational milestones achieved to date.</li> <li>• The Project was amended by extending it until 31 December 2028 to continue providing both normative and practical support to OSCE pS by strengthening their capacity to prevent and address the illicit proliferation of SALW and CA.</li> <li>• The Project developed an e-learning course scenario on Gender Mainstreaming in SALW Assistance Projects, aligned with the OSCE Gender Equality Programme, Action Plan, and SDG 5. The course translates OSCE SALW and SCA commitments into practice, highlighting strategic, operational, and tactical approaches to gender mainstreaming to enhance project effectiveness and sustainability.</li> <li>• The PIT completed support to the OSCE Mission to Skopje SALW ExB Project in delivering the Certification Programme on Product Scents, facilitating the organization and delivery of the final FRONTEX training module. Its successful completion marked a key milestone, finalizing a year-long training of K9 units and unifying and enhancing detection capabilities across the SEE to combat the illegal proliferation of SALW and CA.</li> <li>• The Project also supported the organization of the Informal Briefing on Status of Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition Assistance Projects in the OSCE as of 30 September 2025 to inform pS of the implementation progress of the projects.</li> <li>• On 2 and 3 October, the PIT in co-operation with multiple international partners (UNDP SEESAC, UNIDIR, AMAT, SAS, EMPACT Firearms, and others) organized a closed expert meeting on SALW control in the conflict cycle.</li> </ul>
KEY RESULTS DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD	Promoted Strategic Advocacy:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project continuously advocates for sustained political commitment to SALW control across the OSCE area. Special emphasis is on fundraising for the OSCE projects in the SEE.</li> </ul> <p>Enhanced Co-ordination and Guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project serves as a central platform for information exchange and coordination across the OSCE region. It provides timely, evidence-based recommendations and strategic advisory support that inform and guide SALW-related activities in line with the existing security landscape and emerging threats.</li> </ul> <p>Strengthened Technical and Operational Support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By providing critical equipment, targeted assistance, and high-quality training aligned with international norms and OSCE commitments, it strengthened local capacities for SALW control and risk mitigation, ensuring accountability and reinforcing operational capacities to counter illicit proliferation of SLAW. In the reporting period, deactivation equipment was procured in support of the Kosovo authorities.</li> </ul> <p>Improved Knowledge Management and Visibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two e-learning courses, one knowledge product, and the management of the SALW Portal strengthened the ability of all OSCE stakeholders to provide and coordinate technical assistance effectively and coherently.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shifts in policies and strategic priorities among participating jurisdictions are further intensifying the complexity of planning, coordinating, and delivering SALW-related assistance. At the same time, the growing socio-economic and security impacts of emerging global challenges, alongside the development and spread of new technologies, are further contributing to these complexities. In this context, maintaining practical cooperation and alignment on shared objectives among all stakeholders remains essential to ensuring a coherent and timely OSCE response to SALW control.</li> </ul>
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL END OF 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From 2 to 7 November 2025, in cooperation with EMPACT Firearms under Operational Action 6.4, the project co-organized a workshop in Kaluža, Slovakia. It supported the participation of K9 practitioners from South-Eastern Europe and Moldova. The event aimed to operationalize K9 units' detection capabilities further and enhance their interoperability with investigative units.</li> <li>• Organize a handover of deactivation equipment to the authorities in Kosovo is expected in December 2025.</li> <li>• Continue participating in and contributing OSCE lessons learned and best practices to facilitate discussions on the effective management of SALW risks amid evolving security challenges.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue supporting SEE jurisdictions in strengthening their deactivation capacities through a strategic partnership with the French Proof House in Saint-Étienne, serving as a center of excellence and primary knowledge hub for these activities.</li><li>• Continue building on collaboration with the French K9 Training Centre in Gramat (Centre national d’instruction cynophile de la gendarmerie – CNICG) to advance the standardization of K9 detection practices across the SEE region. The application of the unified SAMBI methodology will establish a regional benchmark in K9 detection, enhancing reliability, consistency, and effectiveness in the field.</li><li>• Continue the partnership with the Slovak Police under the EMPACT Policy Framework to strengthen K9 detection capabilities and cross-border cooperation by linking SEE, UKR, and MLD K9 units with the broader practitioner network and facilitating the exchange of experiences.</li><li>• On the margins of the OSCE Ministerial Council 2025, the project will organize an event on SALW and SCA, aimed at showcasing regional efforts to prevent illicit trafficking, promote stockpile management, and strengthen cooperation across the OSCE area.</li><li>• Promotion, use, and visibility of the SALW Portal (<a href="https://salw.osce.org/">https://salw.osce.org/</a>) remain central to the PIT. The project will continue developing the Portal’s functionalities to ensure it provides real-time information on SALW projects and developments across the OSCE region. Terms of Reference for further enhancements and optimization are currently being prepared, with completion and alignment anticipated by the end of 2025.</li></ul>
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## PROJECTS CLOSED IN PREVIOUS REPORTING PERIOD

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	BAFA (Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control)
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<p>EU Council Decision 2023/2539/CFSP on the Promotion of Effective Arms Export Controls (COARM VI)<sup>11</sup></p> <p>European External Action Service, Directorate for Security Policy and Conflict Prevention, E-mail: <a href="mailto:NonProliferation-Disarm@eeas.europa.eu">NonProliferation-Disarm@eeas.europa.eu</a></p> <p>Ms. Sandra Raca, Head of Division 225 – Outreach Projects/Policy, E-mail: <a href="mailto:Sandra.Raca@bafa.bund.de">Sandra.Raca@bafa.bund.de</a></p>
PROJECT DURATION	December 2023 – January 2025
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	According to Art. 6 of the Annex of the Council Decision 2023/2539/CFSP; Among others: South East Europe (Albania, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia,)
DONOR	European Union, co-financed by the German Federal Foreign Office and BAFA
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 682,464
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As per Article 1 of the Council Decision 2023/2539/CFSP Promoting effective controls on arms export by third countries, in accordance with the principles set out in Common Position 2008/944/CFSP and in the ATT, and seeking, where appropriate, complementarity and synergies with Union assistance projects in the field of export controls and dual use goods.</li> <li>• Supporting countries' efforts at local and regional level to render trade in conventional weapons more responsible and transparent, and to mitigate the risk of the diversion of arms to unauthorized users.</li> </ul>

<sup>11</sup> This project is excluded from the total reported funding amount because its beneficiaries extend beyond those of the Roadmap.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	<p>Goal 1 - By 2023, ensure that arms control legislation is in place, fully harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations and standardized across the region.</p> <p>Goal 4 - By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.</p>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully harmonize arms control legislation with EU legal framework and in line with international agreements/standards</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness among licensed private and legal entities about the danger of misuse and illicit proliferation of FAE.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual Assistance Kosovo 27-28 February 2024, online.</li> <li>• Cross-Regional Workshop for Western Balkan and Eastern Europe 15-17 May 2024, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.</li> <li>• Outreach Event for the Serbian Defence Industry, 11 September 2024, Belgrade.</li> <li>• Study Visit for Montenegro to Estonia, 25-26 September 2024, Tallinn.</li> <li>• Peer-to-Peer Study Visit for Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan to Albania 24 - 26 September 2024, Tirana.</li> <li>• Workshop on transfer of technology for Kosovo and North Macedonia 12 November Pristina.</li> <li>• Legal Assistance Workshop for Kosovo 13 November 2024 Pristina</li> <li>• Peer-to-Peer Study Visit for Mongolia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan to Bosnia and Herzegovina 3- 5 December, Sarajevo.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	OSCE Mission to Serbia
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<i>ExB Project: “Support to designing and implementing awareness raising campaigns on SALW control in Serbia”</i> Project Manager: Ms. Ana Petrovic Jovanovic, Organized Crime Adviser, OSCE Mission to Serbia, E-mail: <a href="mailto:ana.petrovic-jovanovic@osce.org">ana.petrovic-jovanovic@osce.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	September 2019 – December 2024
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	SALW Coordination Council in Serbia, Ministry of Interior and general public
DONOR	European Union, France, Germany and Slovakia
FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 351,163
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	EUR 10,465
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To strengthen the capacities of the Ministry of Interior (MoI) and other state institutions to conduct awareness raising campaigns on SALW control, thus contributing to decreasing the amount of weapons in illegal possession, hindering the misuses of SALW, while increasing the safety of Serbia’s citizens.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 4 - By 2025, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, outreach and advocacy.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase awareness among general population, both women and men, on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE.</li> <li>Increase confidence in security institutions as providers of adequate and equal safety for all through community-society-regional outreach activities.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Mission organized a kick-off Workshop on 15 and 16 September 2021 for 20 representatives from state institutions and civil society organizations involved in addressing SALW misuse.</li> <li>The WG was officially formed on 24 December 2021. Soon after, OSCE expert recommendations on conducting the awareness-raising campaigns in Serbia were shared with the WG members.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In February 2022, the 1st WG meeting was held, during which the tasks working methodology were discussed, and the Recommendations for awareness raising campaigns were presented.</li> <li>• On 18 April, the 2nd WG meeting was organized. The main topic of discussion was the Draft Media and Awareness Raising plan, previously developed by the external expert hired by the project.</li> <li>• On 22 July 2022, the 3rd WG meeting was held. Members of the WG reviewed several SALW awareness raising campaigns either previously implemented in Serbia or expected in the SEE region. The WG concluded on the content, messaging and primary target groups for the planned SALW legalization awareness raising campaign in Serbia.</li> <li>• Following the WG recommendations, the Mission drafted the Terms of Reference for a “Service provider to develop feature (non-animated) video spots, social media campaign content, also develop of concept, content and general design requirements for banners, brochures and posters to support the Ministry of Interior in implementing a campaign to legalize weapons in illegal possession”.</li> <li>• Upon completion of the competitive procedure, in January 2023, the Mission selected a “Service provider for developing campaign materials to support the Mol in implementing a campaign aimed at legalizing weapons in illegal possession”.</li> <li>• During the period January – April 2023, the Mission, the Mol and the selected advertising agency held several strategy meetings to shape the direction and elements of the upcoming campaign.</li> <li>• Following two mass shooting incidents that occurred in Serbia on 3 and 4 May 2023, the Mol announced a voluntary surrender of weapons to commence immediately on 8 May. Therefore, the campaign ideas developed by the media company were reprioritized and adjusted.</li> <li>• During the voluntary surrender campaign, the Mission supported the Mol by producing two informative videos to be broadcasted on TV channels, including the respective content (short videos and visuals) for social media.</li> <li>• To maximize campaign reach, the Mission rented 125 billboards (both printed and LED) across Serbia.</li> <li>• Together with the Mol, the Mission has begun developing the next phase of the awareness-raising campaign, focusing on the safekeeping of legally possessed SALW.</li> <li>• A feature video on this topic was recorded on 27 February 2024 and approved by the Mission and the donors in April 2024.</li> <li>• The Mission also produced informational leaflets and posters, and additional promotional materials (notebooks, pens, USB sticks and cotton bags).</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The campaign is expected to launch in November 2024.</li><li>• The Mission supports the Mol in organizing roundtables with hunting and shooting associations in five cities in Serbia in October and November 2024.</li><li>• Round tables with shooting and hunting associations in four cities in Serbia were held in October and November 2024.</li></ul>
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ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	ITF Enhancing Human Security
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Conventional Weapons Destruction and Physical Security and Stockpile Management in Montenegro <sup>12</sup>  <i>Contact points: Mr. Blaž Mihelič, E-mail: <a href="mailto:blaz.mihelic@itf.si">blaz.mihelic@itf.si</a>, Mr. Andrej Golob, Project Manager, E-mail: <a href="mailto:andrej.golob@itf.si">andrej.golob@itf.si</a></i>
PROJECT DURATION	2017-2025
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministry of Interior - Emergency Management Directorate of Montenegro Ministry of Defense of Montenegro
DONOR	United States of America
FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 4,850,000
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	Conventional Weapons Destruction (CWD) and Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) 1. Reduce stockpiles of surplus, obsolete and/or hazardous Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) and Ammunition Stockpiles. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Destroy, dispose and/or demilitarize outdated and/or hazardous ERW – Ministry of Interior.</li> <li>• Demilitarize outdated and/or hazardous ammunition stockpiles – Ministry of Defense.</li> </ul> 2. Improve conventional weapons and munitions stockpile security and management in Montenegro. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve conditions of storage facility Rogami of inappropriate and/or outdated ERW – Ministry of Interior.</li> <li>• Capacity Development – ERW and EOD Training, equipment provision – Ministry of Interior.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	Goal 6 - Systematically decrease the surplus and destroy seized small arms and light weapons and ammunition.

<sup>12</sup> This project is excluded from the total reported funding amount because it is not exclusively related to SALW.

	Goal 7 - Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition and explosives.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematically destroy all surplus stockpile FAE in an environmentally benign manner.</li> <li>• Systematically and publicly destroy all seized FAE.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure safe and secure SALW/firearms and ammunition storage facilities designated based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION	<p><u>Disposal and/or demilitarization of unexploded ordnance (UXO) for Ministry of Interior Mol MNG</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Destruction of stored outdated and/or hazardous UXO in Podgorica/Rogami facility from the beginning of the project until April 2024 – in total 92.61 tons (T) were disposed of.</li> </ul> <p><u>Demilitarization of ammunitions for Ministry of Defense</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• By October 2024 - a total of 64.73 T (203.351pcs) of various surplus ammunition was demilitarized under MoD surplus ammunitions list project. Project finalized.</li> </ul> <p><u>Safety and Security Adaptation of UXO storage facilities in Podgorica/Rogami - Ministry of Interior Mol MNG</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase one - completed (project design)</li> <li>• Phase two - Phase two - completed in 2025 (construction of plateau with supporting technical elements and equipment and construction works).</li> </ul> <p><u>Capacity Development for the Ministry of Interior, Directorate for Emergency Situations, Department for UXO – Technical Support / Equipment provision</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All equipment for disarming the UXO in the low order technique Montenegro Ministry of Interior – Directorate for Emergency Management – Department for UXO was delivered and activities finalized.</li> <li>• ERW/UXO transport vehicle – equipment purchased and delivered to Montenegro Ministry of Interior – Directorate for Emergency Management – Department for UXO was finalized.</li> <li>• The training project (consisting of IMAS EOD L2, L3 and L3 Maritime) for four employees of Mol Department of UXO commenced in end June and was in levels' segments performed by mid-September 2020.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	SEESAC
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<i>Support for SEESAC Disarmament and Arms Control Activities in South East Europe</i> Ms. Bojana Balon, Head of SEESAC, E-mail: <a href="mailto:bojana.balon@undp.org">bojana.balon@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	2020-2024
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Ministries of Interior, Police Services, Ministries of Economy, Customs Administrations, Prosecution Offices, and other relevant institutions in South East Europe
DONOR	European Union - <a href="#">EU Council Decision 2019/2111</a> , amended by <a href="#">EU Council Decision 2024/381</a>
FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 11,819,605
FUNDING GAPS	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<p>The project is contributing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthened regional cooperation, knowledge exchange and information-sharing on SALW control through Regional Meetings of SALW commissions and SEEFEN;</li> <li>• Comprehensive support for the capacity building of border police and criminal police services of the Western Balkans for countering illicit trafficking and possession of firearms through training, Standard Operating Procedures and provision of equipment;</li> <li>• Further enhancement of capacities for PSSM.</li> </ul> <p>Direct project beneficiaries are: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, North Macedonia, and Ukraine.</p>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL	<p>Goal 1 - By 2023, ensure that arms control legislation is in place, fully harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations, and standardized across the region.</p> <p>Goal 2 - By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence based and intelligence led.</p> <p>Goal 3 - By 2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.</p> <p>Goal 4 - By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.</p> <p>Goal 5 - By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans.</p>

	<p>Goal 6 - Systematically decrease the surplus and destroy seized small arms and light weapons and ammunition.</p> <p>Goal 7 - Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition and explosives.</p>
<p>CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S</p>	<p>Goal 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure full legal and regulatory framework is in place with regards to FAE producers.</li> <li>• Fully harmonize arms control legislation with EU legal framework and in line with international agreements/standards.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standardize and institutionalize data collection on firearms, by gender and age, regarding legal and illegal SALW/firearms interdictions, armed violence incidents, ballistic evidence, and other firearms related data resulting in periodic regional FAE.</li> <li>• Strengthen tasking, coordination and monitoring functions of the Firearms Focal Points, to ensure effective policies on Prevention, Mitigation, Reaction, and Suppression of firearms misuse, trafficking and uncontrolled proliferation.</li> <li>• Increase analytical capacities and institutionalize firearms data analysis.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure full implementation and monitoring of legal, policy and procedural framework on trafficking of FAE.</li> <li>• Prevent trafficking (smuggling, illicit trade and transit) of FAE through improved processes, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement units.</li> <li>• Substantially strengthen control, monitoring and prevention of diversion of legal trade through improved capacities, procedures and transparency.</li> <li>• Strengthen existing bilateral, regional and international mechanisms and encouraging new forms of good practice to counter trafficking of firearms.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness and reduce the misuses of firearms in violence against women, domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substantially increase number of seized firearms, ammunition and explosives.</li> <li>• Ensure that legal measures are in place allowing legalization and voluntary surrender of firearms.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Systematically destroy all surplus stockpile FAE in an environmentally benign manner.</li> <li>• Systematically and publicly destroy all seized FAE.</li> </ul>

	<p>Goal 7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure safe and secure SALW/firearms and ammunition storage facilities designated based on identified needs and in accordance with international standards.</li> </ul>
<p>ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (Beginning of the project – end of December 2024)</p>	<p><u>Continuation of facilitation of regional cooperation and support for evidence-based policy-making on SALW control, thus further contributing to the reduction of the threat of illicit proliferation of SALW</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Operational cooperation on combatting illicit arms trafficking in South East and East Europe facilitated through the South East Europe Firearms Experts Network:</u> The 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of South East Europe Firearms Experts Network (SEEFEN) were held in November 2020, June and October 2021, with participation from law enforcement officials including ballistic experts, customs administration, prosecutors, criminal and border police representatives from Western Balkans, Moldova and Ukraine. <a href="#">16<sup>th</sup> SEEFEN meeting</a> was held on 31 May - 1 June 2022 in Tirana, the <a href="#">17<sup>th</sup> SEEFEN meeting</a> was held on 1-2 November 2022 in Skopje, the <a href="#">18<sup>th</sup> SEEFEN meeting</a> was organized in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on 13-14 June 2023. The 20<sup>th</sup> SEEFEN meeting took place in Tirana on 14-15 May 2024, while the <a href="#">21<sup>st</sup></a> on 19-20 November 2024 in Jahorina.</li> <li>• <u>Cooperation on SALW control at the strategic level in South East and East Europe facilitated through the regional platform of SALW Commissions:</u> The 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Regional Meetings of SALW Commissions were held in April and October 2021. The 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Regional meetings of SALW Commissions took place in July and December 2022. The <a href="#">17<sup>th</sup></a> and <a href="#">18<sup>th</sup></a> Regional Meetings of SALW Commissions Meeting were held in Sarajevo on 6 July 2023, and in Tirana on 21 December 2023, respectively. The <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup></a> SALW Commissions meeting meeting was organized on 11 July 2024 in Podgorica, and the <a href="#">20<sup>th</sup></a> on 12 December 2024 in Skopje. These meetings bring together representatives of institutions from the Western Balkans, Moldova and Ukraine. In addition, the delegation from Kyrgyzstan participated in 19th meeting, while the delegation from Cambodia attended 20th meeting. Support was provided to Bosnia and Herzegovina in the process of developing a new SALW Control Strategy. SEESAC supported the SALW Coordination Board of Bosnia and Herzegovina in organizing three dedicated workshops: on 27-28 February 2024 to initiate the revision of the SALW Control Strategy and Action Plan, on 6-7 June 2024 to review the revised text, and on 23-25 October 2024 to finalize its development, while ensuring alignment with the updated Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Evidence based policymaking and harmonisation of SALW control legislation with the EU acquis:</u></li> <li>• Support was provided to the SALW Commission of North Macedonia in assessing its SALW Control Strategy and Action Plan, which expired at the end of 2021. The new strategic documents were adopted by the Government in October 2022.</li> <li>• Consultative support was provided to the Ministry of Interior of North Macedonia in the drafting of the new Law on Weapons. In 2023, SEESAC conducted a gap analysis of the harmonization of this Law with the relevant EU acquis by developing tables of concordance.</li> <li>• Additionally, a gap analysis assessed the harmonization level of the Law on Explosives for Civil Use through the developed tables of concordance. From 16–19 September 2024, a workshop in Struga provided expert support to the working group for further harmonization of the Law with the EU regulatory framework.</li> <li>• On 18–19 October 2022, SEESAC organised a <a href="#">workshop</a> in Banja Luka on harmonising Bosnia and Herzegovina’s arms control laws with the EU acquis. The meeting brought together relevant actors to discuss aligning and standardising the jurisdiction’s different Laws on Weapons with EU regulatory framework.</li> <li>• During this period, SEESAC provided support to Serbia’s SALW Coordination Council in evaluating its Roadmap Action Plan covering 2019-2020 and developing the new one for 2023-2024. To this purpose, a workshop was organized in Belgrade on 7 June 2023.</li> <li>• Additionally, SEESAC supported the SALW Control Council of Serbia in evaluating the SALW Control Strategy, expiring at the end of 2024, during four workshops held on 18-19 April, 25-26 April 2024, 27-28 June 2024, and 2-3 September 2024. As a result, a concept for a new SALW Control Strategy was developed, and a final evaluation report to align the new Strategy with the Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap.</li> <li>• The Ministry of Internal and Foreign Trade of Serbia was supported in upgrading their software for record-keeping and reporting on arms transfers completed in August 2024.</li> <li>• The Ministry of Interior of Serbia received SEESAC’s support in drafting the new Law on Weapons and Ammunition to address any existing gaps and ensure harmonization with the EU Acquis and relevant international practices during a workshop on 5-6 December 2023. The draft was further refined at the subsequent workshops held on 28 February to 1 March 2024 and on 27-29 March 2024.</li> <li>• A workshop on Draft Law on Civil Use of Explosives was held on 22-23 February 2024 in Montenegro with the aim of bringing Montenegro’s legislation in line with the EU acquis, resulting in the first draft of the revised Law on explosives for civil use. As a follow-up,</li> </ul>
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	<p>SEESAC completed the gap analysis of the level of harmonization of the new draft law with the EU acquis and international practices through developed tables of concordances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Workshop on the development of the first draft of the new Law on Arms and Ammunition in Montenegro was organized from 3 to 4 September 2024 in Podgorica.</li> <li>• Support was provided in the process of evaluating the existing SALW and Explosives Control Strategy and Action plan in Kosovo and the development of the new ones. The new strategic documents were adopted in 2024.</li> <li>• Support was provided to Albania in the development of the new Roadmap Action Plan. The Action Plan was adopted by the Government in December 2021.</li> <li>• The Ministry of Internal Affairs in Albania was supported in the harmonization of SALW control legislation with the relevant EU regulatory framework. A gap analysis and table of concordance of the level of harmonization of the draft Law on Weapons with the EU regulatory framework was completed in the second quarter of 2024.</li> <li>• To support the harmonization of arms control legislation of the Western Balkans jurisdictions with the EU acquis in the area of voluntary surrender and firearms legalization, SEESAC developed <a href="#">The Emergency Protocol for Safe Storage of Ammunition and Explosives (EP1)</a> and <a href="#">Emergency Protocol (EP2) on the safe transport of small quantities of surrendered or recovered ammunition and explosives for final destruction</a>.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Regional workshops on the harmonization of legislation related to arms control for the authorities coming from the Western Balkans, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine</a> were organized in Brussels on 31 May - 1 June 2023 and on 21-22 October 2024. The Workshops were organized by SEESAC together with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs and the European External Action Service.</li> <li>• <u>Knowledge tools:</u></li> <li>• The <a href="#">Regional Reports on Arms Exports for 2018, 2019, 2020</a>, and <a href="#">2021</a>, which collect information on arms exports from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia, were published. Data collection for the Regional Report on Arms Exports for 2022 was initiated, and the report will be finalized and published in the beginning of 2025.</li> <li>• The Study on hand grenades produced in or originating from the Western Balkans, alongside the Best Practice Manual, was developed and is available for the authorities and interested parties in English, Albanian, BCMS and Macedonian.</li> <li>• <u>Monitoring of trends:</u> Maintenance of the <a href="#">Armed Violence Monitoring Platform</a> continued, with regular dissemination of <a href="#">SEE Armed Violence Monitors</a>, enabling the capture of trends and development of policy-relevant on-demand knowledge products. In total, 13</li> </ul>
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	<p>monthly reports, 17 quarterly reports, and 17 In Focus reports have been shared and published on SEESAC's website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Support to SALW Commissions'</b> members continued through the provision of English language courses, which were attended at different levels and in different numbers by members of the commissions of North Macedonia, Montenegro, Moldova, Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina.</li> <li>• A two-day training on capacity building on gender mainstreaming to the members of the Gender Equality Coordination Board of the Ministry of Security of BiH. The training, organized on 25-26 January 2021 via an online platform, was attended by 12 participants.</li> <li>• On-demand support was provided to the SALW Coordination Board in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2023 for their campaign against femicide by preparing tailor-made material on domestic violence in BiH, particularly on the role firearms have in gender-based violence. Additionally, an overview of ongoing and planned activities related to integrating the gender perspective into SALW control in BiH was developed.</li> <li>• The Gender and SALW Control Resource Pack was finalized and published on the website in June 2024, providing an overview of the wide range of knowledge products developed by SEESAC and serving as a simple reference guide and aid to policymakers, practitioners, and researchers.</li> </ul> <p><u>Support to capacity building of law enforcement and border authorities in preventing and countering illicit arms and explosives trafficking.</u></p> <p>Support to border police services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In response to the priorities identified through the Needs Assessment of the Border Police services in Albania, North Macedonia, Serbia, and Montenegro regarding the prevention of illicit firearms trafficking, SEESAC <u>provided strategic and comprehensive support</u>. This support encompassed the development and institutionalization of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), the procurement of specialized equipment, and the implementation of tailored training.</li> <li>• With SEESAC support a total of <u>12 Standard Operating Procedures</u>, covering detection, risk analysis, and emergency response procedures, were developed and endorsed by Border police services of Albania, North Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro. Complementing these efforts, in 2024, SEESAC completed <u>procurement and delivery of 940 units of specialized equipment, with a total value exceeding USD 3.5 million.</u></li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ‘<u>The Handbook for Border Guards and Customs – regional Western Balkans version</u>’ was developed in cooperation with FRONTEX. The handbook version was translated into local languages, printed out and disseminated to the relevant authorities.</li> <li>• Workshop on the addendum of the "Handbook on Firearms for Border Guards and Customs Officers – regional Western Balkans version" was held jointly with FRONTEX, and in the framework of EMPACT firearms, on 4-5 May 2023 in Belgrade for the representatives of six Western Balkan jurisdictions.</li> <li>• Based on the Handbook and developed SOPs, a <u>series of one-week trainings of trainers were delivered jointly with FRONTEX for 64 border police officers and 20 customs officers from <a href="#">Bosnia and Herzegovina</a>, <a href="#">Serbia</a>, <a href="#">Albania</a>, <a href="#">Kosovo</a>, <a href="#">North Macedonia</a> and <a href="#">Montenegro</a> between June and October 2023.</u> An additional Firearms Detection Training was conducted for the border police of <a href="#">Montenegro</a> in 2024.</li> <li>• <u>Facilitation of regional cooperation among border police services:</u> The regional meetings of Border and Customs officials were held on 6-7 December 2022 on <a href="#">21-22 November 2023</a>, and on <a href="#">5-6 November 2024</a> in cooperation with FRONTEX.</li> </ul> <p>Support to criminal police services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on the needs assessments of the capacities of the criminal police services in the Western Balkans to counter illicit possession, misuse and trafficking of firearms, SEESAC provided comprehensive support, including the development of SOPs, procurement of equipment and training. The processes of procurement of equipment for criminal police were initiated in 6 Western Balkan jurisdictions . <u>As a result, 821 piece of equipment was procured through several procurement processes, totalling over USD 1.65 million, and delivered across six Western Balkans jurisdictions .</u></li> <li>• With SEESAC's support, <u>20 Standard Operating Procedures</u> (on investigations, on detection, on risk analysis, emergency situations, and on FFPs) for the criminal police of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia were finalized, translated and sent for approval to relevant authorities, with SOPs endorsed in Serbia, Albania and Montenegro by the end of 2024, while they are still under the review in BIH and North Macedonia.</li> <li>• In 2024, North Macedonia was assisted in developing a Standard Operating Procedure for firearms reported as stolen, lost, or found.</li> <li>• Based on developed SOPs, one-week trainings on the detection of firearms and practical implementation of the risk analysis methodology were organized for the criminal police of <a href="#">Serbia</a>, <a href="#">North Macedonia</a>, <a href="#">Kosovo</a>, <a href="#">Albania</a>, <a href="#">Montenegro</a> and <a href="#">Bosnia and Herzegovina</a></li> </ul>
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from April to July 2023. An additional firearms detection training was also delivered to the State Investigation and Protection Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina on 5-8 December 2023.

- Facilitation of regional cooperation among criminal police services: [The 1<sup>st</sup> regional meeting of criminal police representatives on countering illicit arms trafficking](#) for the representatives of the Western Balkans jurisdictions and Moldova was held on 14-15 December 2021, the [2<sup>nd</sup> meeting](#) was held on 30 November - 1 December 2022, the [3<sup>rd</sup>](#) on 25 – 26 April 2023 and the [4<sup>th</sup>](#) regional meeting was held on 23-24 April 2024.

Improvement of capacities for physical security and stockpile management (PSSM) through infrastructure security upgrades, surplus reduction and training

Security of 16 evidence rooms:

- Security upgrade works at three Mol evidence rooms in Montenegro – Nikšić, Bar and Bijelo Polje – were completed (2020).
- The security upgrades of four evidence rooms requested by the Mol of Serbia (Stari Grad, Palilula, Novi Beograd, Zemun) were completed in March 2024, including the technical handovers to the beneficiaries. The works included refurbishing the rooms, installing security doors with access control equipment, windows fitted with security bars, CCTV systems, and weapons racks.
- The security upgrade of the three selected evidence rooms in BiH belonging to the Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies (DKPT), a Border Police field office, and the State Agency for Investigation and Protection (SIPA) was completed at the end of 2023. The upgrade works, including CCTV equipment installation, were completed by November 2023, followed by the delivery and installation of weapons cabinets.
- In North Macedonia, activities for the upgrade of three evidence rooms (in Gazi Baba, Prilep and Tetovo) were completed in March 2023, followed by the installation and delivery of weapons cabinets. The works entailed refurbishing the **rooms' floors, walls,** and ceilings, installing security doors with access control equipment, windows fitted with security bars, CCTV systems, and the supply and delivery of weapons racks.
- The security upgrade of the evidence safekeeping rooms at the Police Directorates in Pristina, Prizren and Mitrovica south was completed in November 2021. The evidence rooms were equipped with metal cabinets for storing weapons, secured with padlocks.
- Through SEESAC support to the Western Balkans jurisdictions in addressing the risks posed by SALW surplus, a total of 7,211 SALW, along with 4,933 SALW parts and components, were successfully destroyed as part of ongoing disarmament and stockpile reduction efforts.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Weapons destruction was supported in Bosnia and Herzegovina: 1,069 of pieces SALW and 795 parts and components of SALW were destroyed in October 2020; additional 1,082 pieces and 891 SALW parts and components were destroyed on 18 September 2021, 1,304 pieces of SALW and 1,189 of their components were destroyed on 21 November 2022 and 1,958 pieces of SALW and 1981 of its parts and components in December 2024; in Kosovo: 1,000 pieces of SALW were destroyed on 9 July 2023; in Montenegro: 798 pieces of SALW and 77 SALW parts and components were destroyed on 8 June 2023.</li> <li>• <u>Regional cooperation on physical security and stockpile management was facilitated:</u> Three regional workshops were held in Podgorica on 27-29 June 2022, in Skopje on 27-28 September 2023, and in Tirana on 8-9 October 2024. The workshops gathered participants from the Western Balkans and Moldova, involved in Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) of conventional weapons and ammunition, as well as representatives of international organizations (RCC, RACVIAC, ITF, OSCE, UNDP, AMAT, US DoS PMWRA) engaged in this area.</li> <li>• <u>Capacity development:</u> A total of 200 police officers from the Mol of Serbia responsible for recordkeeping and safe storage of weapons and ammunition in police stations/administrations, attended four PSSM workshops conducted in September and October 2023.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Because of a wide set of measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, some project activities have been affected, such as organization of some meetings, and the <b>implementation of the activities stemming from the needs’ assessment of border police services</b> such as the development of SOPs, purchase of equipment and training. In 2022, meetings, trainings and workshops were organized in a mix of settings - in-person, hybrid or online. Furthermore, the war in Ukraine created global market volatility, affecting the availability, pricing, and delivery of goods.</li> </ul>
PLANNED ACTIVITIES UNTIL END OF 2025	N/A. The project under the framework of the EU CD (CFSP) 2019/2111, amended by CD (CFSP) 2024/381, was completed in December 2024.

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	SEESAC
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PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	<i>Enhancement of SALW control security measures in Albania - follow-on project</i> Bojana Balon, Head of SEESAC, <a href="mailto:bojana.balon@undp.org">bojana.balon@undp.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	20 September 2022 – 19 January 2026 This project has been terminated following Notice by the donor on 28 January 2025.
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Albanian Ministry of Internal Affairs (Mol); Albanian State Police (ASP)
DONOR	The Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs (PM/WRA)
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1,250,000 <sup>13</sup>
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project aims to enhance SALW control and reduce the risk of illicit weapons proliferation through increased accountability, physical security, and safety in the management of stockpiles under the responsibility of the ASP. It will focus on targeting specific areas of stockpile management to strengthen inventory management and increase stockpile physical security and safety through cost-effective and impactful improvements, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Introduction of a barcode system for weapons recordkeeping at the Mol/ASP central SALW and ammunition storage location 'Mullet'.</li> <li>○ Security upgrade and equipping of thirteen ASP priority SALW/evidence safekeeping room locations.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The project contributes directly to local and regional security and stability by ensuring that the significant amounts of stockpiled SALW and ammunition under the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior/Albanian State Police are accounted for, secured, and safe. As such, the project helps reduce the risk of uncontrolled proliferation at the local and regional level and the risk of uncontrolled explosions.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal 7-Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition, and explosives.</li> </ul>

<sup>13</sup> Initial donor support of USD 750,000 was approved on 20 September 2022. On 20 September 2023, a cost extension was approved in the amount of USD 500,000 to enable additional activities under the project in line with the official requests of the beneficiary to UNDP SEESAC as of April and May 2023.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of SALW/firearms and ammunition storage facilities in line with international safety and security standards.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (Beginning of the project – December 2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project was initiated on 20 September 2022.</li> <li>• The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UNDP Albania and the ASP was signed to enable cooperation to continue beyond 31 December 2022 until the initially planned project completion in 2025.</li> <li>• ASP submitted new requests for support in April and May 2023 regarding the complete overhaul of the SIMA and the security upgrade of the locations of additional small SALW storage/evidence rooms. In September 2023, the donor approved additional funding of US\$500,000, and the project duration was extended until 19 January 2026.</li> <li>• By September 2023, detailed assessments of 11 out of 13 small SALW storage /evidence room locations were conducted. The two pending assessments were completed later, by 2024, upon the ASP replacement of two locations. The technical assessments of an additional six locations were completed in 2024 upon the ASP replacement of three out of six locations. The inputs obtained were used for the procurement of upgrade designs and supervision services.</li> <li>• Procurement of a professional company to design security upgrades for all planned small SALW storage/evidence rooms' locations (both initially planned and additional) and provide designer supervision of the execution of the works has been prepared and completed. Upon UNDP approval in November 2024, the contract was signed in December 2024, and the security clearance from the ASP for the contractor experts to access the locations was obtained.</li> <li>• The development of a barcode module for weapons record-keeping at the ASP's central SALW and ammunition storage location, 'Mullet', was completed in close consultation with ASP experts on the necessary IT functionalities. The beneficiary tested and accepted it in June 2024. The beneficiary clearance for the training of two storage operators at 'Mullet' in the use of the barcode module was obtained at the end of October, while the donor vetting was received towards the end of the year. It was agreed with ASP that the training delivery timeline should be aligned with the SIMA overhaul activity and hence scheduled for 2025. Additionally, the procurement of IT supplies necessary to support the barcode module implementation at 'Mullet' was completed in August 2024.</li> <li>• The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the procurement of expertise for the development of SIMA modules were developed in consultation with the ASP. It was first endorsed by ASP and then approved by UNDP in December.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyber-attacks significantly damaged the weapons registration system in Albania (SIMA), and substantive support for the activation and overhaul of SIMA is needed. Namely, the</li> </ul>

	<p>majority of data was lost and had to be repopulated. Given the system status and vulnerability, the ASP deems that an update as planned wouldn't suffice and that a complete system rebuilding is needed. In response to their requests as of April and May 2023, the project cost extension was endorsed by the donor in September 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The locations of two SALW/evidence rooms could not be assessed by the project engineer as initially planned due to internal ASP issues, and they were later replaced by two other locations. Additionally, after assessing six proposed evidence room locations, three were replaced by the beneficiary. This has prompted the organization of additional assessments, which have caused a delay in the implementation timeline. The scope of the engineer's contract had to be amended to enable additional assessments to be made.</li> <li>• Training of 'Mullet' storage operators in using barcode module, initially planned for summer, has been postponed for early Q4 2024 due to an extended clearance process by the beneficiary, which was completed at the end of October 2024.</li> </ul>
<p>ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL END IN 2025<sup>14</sup></p>	<p>This project has been terminated following Notice by the donor on 28 January 2025. The initial plan was to implement the following activities in 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed assessments of 18 evidence room locations to be upgraded and one to be constructed, with measurements taking, assessment report completion, and subsequent preparation of the designs.</li> <li>• Launch of the tender for upgrade and construction works at 19 locations, followed by tender evaluation and approval.</li> <li>• Works execution and technical handover of completed works to the beneficiaries at 19 locations.</li> <li>• Completion of the ToT on the usage of the barcode module at 'Mullet'.</li> <li>• Launch of the tender for IT expertise for SIMA rebuilding</li> <li>• Development and testing of the SIMA modules.</li> </ul>

*Note: For the list of all projects that were closed before this reporting period, please refer to the [document with inputs from international organizations](#) published ahead of the 12<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination Meeting.*

<sup>14</sup> This project has been terminated following Notice by the donor on 28 January 2025.

List of projects for which no new inputs were received. The information covers the period up to the end of 2024.

<b>ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY</b>	British Embassy in Tirana <sup>15</sup>
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	UK assistance to the Albanian Police and Justice System in the Field of Forensic Science <sup>16</sup> Mr. Richard BONE, Program Manager, E-mail: <a href="mailto:Richard.bone@fcdo.gov.uk">Richard.bone@fcdo.gov.uk</a>
PROJECT DURATION	2023-2026 with possibility of extension
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Albanian State Police, Albanian State Police Scientific Police Institute, General Prosecutor's Office
DONOR	United Kingdom
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	Approximately GBP 6,000,000
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	The project is focused on providing technical assistance and does not plan any significant capital spend on equipment, etc.  While there is a need for better equipment in the Forensic Lab as well as improved CSI facilities, before this is provided, the structural and institutional obstacles that currently hinder raising standards need to be addressed (see below).
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Albanian forensic evidence collection and analysis meet and comply with the accreditation criteria ISO 17025 and allow for membership of the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI).</li> <li>• Albanian police and criminal justice professionals comply with the accreditation criteria ISO 17020 for Crime Scene Investigation (CSI). Albania builds and continues to populate a DNA Database within an appropriate legal framework and to ISO standards.</li> <li>• A legal and regulatory framework for the development and use of forensic and biometric evidence embedded within the Albanian Government and Justice system.</li> </ul>

<sup>15</sup> The inputs presented in this document are as received in November 2024 from the British Embassy in Tirana ahead of the 12<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination Meeting held on 10-11 December 2024 as no new inputs have been received.

<sup>16</sup> This project is excluded from the total reported funding amount because it is not exclusively related to SALW.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased capacity for the identification of individuals through biometrics. Improved Albanian criminal record management, criminal conviction, arrest and deportation data are more accurately attributed to the correct individual.</li> </ul> <p>Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improvement in the technical capabilities of Albanian Police forensics and CSI with services adequately resourced and staffed by appropriately trained experts who have secured, demonstrated and maintained the necessary competence for their role.</li> <li>Improved understanding and use of forensic evidence by justice professionals who demonstrate awareness of the varied weight of evidence provided by forensics; better management of crime scenes with fewer unnecessary submissions.</li> <li>A regulatory framework that enables the use and sustainment of forensic science widely in the Criminal Justice System.</li> <li>An increased capacity for the identification of individuals through biometrics and improved and integrated record-keeping within Albania.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goals 2 and 3
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure standardization of procedures and practices in the area of arms control and FAE investigations.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevent trafficking (smuggling, illicit trade and transit) of FAE through improved processes, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement units.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (From the beginning of project – end October 2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assessment of CSI capacity and recommendations for future CSI development (these have been accepted by the ASP).</li> <li>Assessment of the requirements to develop a Forensic Strategy.</li> <li>Commencement of the implementation of a Quality Management system within the Laboratory.</li> <li>Commencement of competency testing for CSI staff.</li> <li>Provision of a DNA reference line laboratory.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	The ASP has received considerable training and equipment provision for many years; despite this, forensic and CSI standards remain low. The reasons for this are structural and cannot be solved by training alone- it requires a change of culture and internal processes. The project is focusing on changing these.

	The new Police Law, passed in July 2024, removes the right of the police to take DNA from arrested persons other than in accordance with the Criminal Procedure Code. The practical outcome of this is that the Albanian DNA Database will not develop further.
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assisting the ASP in developing the sub-legal act on the ‘Functioning, Management and Administration of the Laboratory’, which is required to be developed by the new Police law.</li> <li>• Facilitating the work of the CSI development working groups.</li> <li>• Assist the laboratory staff in implementing a Quality Management System and implementing the corrective actions required to raise standards to facilitate ISO accreditation.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (EUROJUST) <sup>17</sup>
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Western Balkan Criminal Project (WBCJ) <sup>18</sup> Contact point: Ms. Azra Ikovic, E-mail: <a href="mailto:azra.ikovic@eurojust.europa.eu">azra.ikovic@eurojust.europa.eu</a>
PROJECT DURATION	2022-2026
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Western Balkan judicial and law enforcement authorities
DONOR	European Union (Pre-accession Assistance IPA III instrument)
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	EUR 6,000,000
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A

<sup>17</sup> This project is excluded from the total reported funding amount because it is not exclusively related to SALW.

<sup>18</sup> The inputs presented in this document are as received in June 2024 from EUROJUST ahead of the 13<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination Meeting held on 8-9 July 2025 as no new inputs have been received.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES	Enhance operational and strategic cross-border cooperation within the Western Balkans and between the region and the EU on fighting organised crime and terrorism using modern tools and instruments.
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	Goal 3 .
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	Goal 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent trafficking (smuggling, illicit trade and transit) of FAE through improved processes, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement units.</li> <li>• Strengthen existing bilateral, regional and international mechanisms and encourage new forms of good practice to counter trafficking of firearms.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (Beginning of the project – end of December 2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• So far, the project supported one joint investigation team between 2 Western Balkans jurisdictions on weapon trafficking, including through equipment, support to special investigative measures and action days leading to the arrest of dozens of suspects and illicit weapons such as pistols, long guns, hand grenades and ammunition.</li> <li>• The project also supported the WB authorities in two other cross-border cases with EU Member States involving weapon trafficking. Investigations are ongoing.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END OF 2025	Support to ongoing and future investigations upon request of the WB authorities.

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) <sup>19</sup>
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Project Justitia: Support to the Criminal Justice Response to Counter Arms Trafficking in the Western Balkans  Ms. Simonetta Grassi, Chief, Firearms Trafficking Section, Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch Division for Treaty Affairs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – UNODC, Email: <a href="mailto:simonetta.grassi@un.org">simonetta.grassi@un.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	November 2023 - October 2025

<sup>19</sup> The inputs presented in this document are as received in June 2025 from UNODC ahead of the 13<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination Meeting held on 8-9 July 2025 as no new inputs have been received.

PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Western Balkan jurisdictions
DONOR	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 2,390,815
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project Justitia directly builds upon the previous project on “Criminal Justice Response against Arms Trafficking in the Western Balkans”, implemented by UNODC in 2020-2023, and represents a comprehensive effort to strengthen the criminal justice system's response to organized crime and illicit firearms trafficking in the Western Balkans. By addressing gaps in legislation, enhancing the abilities of criminal justice practitioners, and harmonizing criminal legislation approaches across the region for better operational exchange, the project aims to create a more effective and unified approach to combat these pressing issues and support the implementation of the Roadmap for SALW Control in the Western Balkans.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goal 1 - By 2023, ensure that arms control legislation is in place, fully harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations and standardized across the region.</li> <li>• Goal 3 - By 2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.</li> <li>• Goal 4 - By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fully harmonize arms control legislation with EU legal framework and in line with international agreements/standards.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prevent trafficking (smuggling, illicit trade and transit) of FAE through improved processes, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement units.</li> <li>• Strengthen existing bilateral, regional and international mechanisms and encouraging new forms of good practice to counter trafficking of firearms.</li> </ul> <p>Goal 4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase awareness among general population, both women and men, on the danger of misuse, illicit possession and trafficking of FAE.</li> </ul>

<p>KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (Beginning of the project – December 2024)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inception meeting for Project Justicia;</li> <li>• One regional conference on legislative harmonization with the criminalization provisions of UN Firearms Protocol was organized;</li> <li>• Two workshops on legislative harmonization between BiH Criminal Code with the criminalization provisions of UN Firearms Protocol were organized;</li> <li>• One regional conference on harmonization of judicial practices in the adjudication of firearms cases was held;</li> <li>• One regional conference on the application of special investigative measures to firearms offences was organized;</li> <li>• One study visit to the European Court on Human Rights and the French judicial institutions for all WB jurisdictions was organized;</li> <li>• One regional conference on development of training materials for investigation and prosecution of firearms offences was held;</li> <li>• Training materials for the judiciary were developed and one training for judiciary in was delivered Pristina;</li> <li>• Training materials for the judiciary in Belgrade were developed;</li> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the firearms case collection was developed in Pristina, Belgrade, Sarajevo and Skopje;</li> <li>• Guide on the application of Special Investigative Measures in firearms investigations was developed in Tirana, Belgrade, Skopje, Podgorica and Sarajevo;</li> <li>• Training materials for investigation and prosecution of firearms offences were developed in Skopje,</li> <li>• Development and launch of the Commentary on the North Macedonian Criminal Code.</li> <li>• Regional meeting on harmonization of criminal legislation was organized.</li> <li>• Firearms case law workshops in Pristina, Sarajevo and Skopje were organized.</li> <li>• Criminal legislation workshop in Sarajevo was organized.</li> <li>• Training for judiciary in Belgrade was delivered.</li> <li>• Training materials for investigation and prosecution of firearms offences developed in Belgrade were finalized.</li> </ul>
<p>MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END 2025</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization of training for judiciary in Sarajevo, Tirana, Skopje and Podgorica.</li> <li>• Development of the Regional analysis of implementation of SIMs for firearms trafficking cases.</li> <li>• Development of 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the firearms case collection in Tirana and Podgorica.</li> </ul>

ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION/AGENCY	UNODC <sup>20</sup>
PROGRAMME/PROJECT TITLE AND CONTACT PERSON	Project Hermes 2.1: Countering Trafficking in Firearms in Firearms, Their Parts and Ammunition in Express Courier and Postal Parcels  Ms. Simonetta Grassi, Chief, Firearms Trafficking Section, Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch Division for Treaty Affairs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime – UNODC, Email: <a href="mailto:simonetta.grassi@un.org">simonetta.grassi@un.org</a>
PROJECT DURATION	October 2024 - October 2025
PROJECT BENEFICIARY/IES	Western Balkan jurisdictions
DONOR	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
PROJECT TOTAL FUNDING AMOUNT	USD 1,280,387
FUNDING GAPS (IF ANY)	N/A
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Hermes is aimed at increasing the capacities of the Western Balkans jurisdictions to counter trafficking of firearms, their parts, ammunition and explosives through Express Courier and postal parcels. The project builds upon a pilot initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina from 2020 to 2022 and the project's first phase implemented by UNODC in 2023. Under Hermes Phase 2.1, UNODC will support all jurisdictions in the WB to strengthen their response to firearms trafficking through the provision of advanced courses for X-ray operators, workshops targeting analytical units of customs administrations and DPOs, and through the delivery of specialized equipment to customs administrations and DPOs.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP GOAL/S	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal 3 - By 2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.</li> <li>Goal 5 - By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans.</li> </ul>
CONTRIBUTING TO THE ROADMAP OVERALL TARGET/S	<p>Goal 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prevent trafficking (smuggling, illicit trade and transit) of FAE through improved processes, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement units.</li> </ul>

<sup>20</sup> The inputs presented in this document are as received in June 2025 from UNODC ahead of the 13<sup>th</sup> Regional Roadmap Coordination Meeting held on 8-9 July 2025 as no new inputs have been received.

	<p>Goal 5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substantially increase number of seized firearms, ammunition and explosives.</li> </ul>
KEY ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED (Beginning of the project – December 2024)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Procurement of the X-ray scanners was initiated.</li> </ul>
MAIN CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED	N/A
ACTIVITIES PLANNED UNTIL THE END 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organization of training for customs and postal officials in Tirana, Pristina, Belgrade, Podgorica, Skopje and Sarajevo.</li> <li>• Procurement and delivery of 7 X-ray scanners.</li> <li>• Procurement and delivery of 2 hand-held explosive detectors.</li> <li>• Organization of workshops on risk indicators for trafficking of firearms in postal parcels.</li> </ul>