Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW in the Western Balkans by 2024

Monitoring Framework (4th Progress Report) - Sarajevo

Juliana Buzi
Regional Cooperation Specialist
SEESAC
The SALW Commissions are responsible for collecting the required data and progress on activities as per Roadmap Goals, from all relevant institutions (except for KPI 5 and KPI 14);

SEESAC is integrating the data into a regional report that is shared regularly with the EU, other donors, regional and international partners;

Supported through the EU Council Decision 2018/1788.
KEY MILESTONES

1st KPIs Report
(covering year 2018)
18 April 2019

2nd KPIs Report
(covering 1 January - 30 June 2019)
15 October 2019

3rd KPIs Report
(covering 1 July - 31 December 2019)
30 April 2020

4th KPIs Report
(covering 1 January - 30 June 2020)
15 October 2020

4th Regional Roadmap Coordination Meeting
- online
25-26 Nov 2020
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>PROGRESS REPORT</strong></th>
<th><strong>GOAL 1</strong></th>
<th><strong>KEY FINDINGS (KPI 1)</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

| Directive 2017/853 amending 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons |  |  | ✔ |
| Regulation 258/2012 Article 10 of the (UN Firearms Protocol) | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Regulation (EU) 2015/2403 establishing common guidelines on deactivation | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2019/68 for the marking of firearms | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2019/69 for technical specifications for alarm and signal weapon | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Regulation (EU) 2019/1148 on the marketing and use of explosives precursors | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Directive 2014/28/EU on the harmonization of the laws for supervision of CUE | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment (MTE) | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Common Military List of the European Union | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Council Common Position 2003/468/CFSP on the control of arms brokering | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Directive 2009/43/EC simplifying terms and conditions of transfers of defence-related products | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Directive 2009/81/EC for the award of certain works contracts, in the fields of defense and security | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Council Regulation (EC) No 428/2009 for the control of dual-use items | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| Arms Trade Treaty | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
| UN Firearms Protocol | ✂ | ✂ | ✂ |
PROGRESS REPORT – GOAL 2
KEY FINDINGS (KPI 2, 3, 7 & 8)

By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence-based and intelligence-led.

- Active SALW Coordination Board in place, coordinating and monitoring implementation of SALW Control Strategy (2016-2020);

- Process of developing new strategy ongoing with a strong gender component; Action Plan for the implementation on the Roadmap yet to be adopted, integrated in the new SALW Strategy;

- Firearms Focal Point/s not yet established;

- No single focal point with EUROPOL; Use of EUROPOL's SIENA by Federal Police Administration and Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies; No direct access reported by ITA and Republika Srpska;

- Data exchange reported through INTERPOL's iARMS by Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies; Almost all agencies reported to have access to iArms;
PROGRESS REPORT – GOAL 2
KEY FINDINGS (KPI 2, 3, 7 & 8)

By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence-based and intelligence-led.

- Data exchange among law enforcement and criminal justice system on prosecutions and convictions of firearms related crimes not standardized;

- Cases of illegal possession of FAE higher than in the previous period (111 vs 66); No cases related to trafficking of FAE in the reporting period; No data on illegal manufacturing or altering of firearms marking;

- No information provided in the report on ballistic capacities and status of accreditation process of ballistic lab/s.
- Number of inland seizure cases and seized FAE much lower than the previous reporting period;
- Seized FAE at the border much lower than those inland.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Inland seizures</th>
<th>Seizures at the border</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cases of seized FAE</td>
<td>No data</td>
<td>221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seized firearms (pieces)</td>
<td>256</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seized ammunition (pieces)</td>
<td>16,151</td>
<td>11,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seized explosives (grams/pcs)</td>
<td>16 pcs</td>
<td>91 pcs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PROGRESS REPORT – GOAL 3
KEY FINDINGS (KPI 4, 6 & 9)

By 2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.

• Activities on strengthening border control and custom administration capacities reported ongoing with support from UNDP and UNODC;

• Operational cooperation with Europol, cooperation with EMPACT (preparation for participation in JADs in 2020);

• No diversion of arms exports reported; Inputs for regional arms export report 2018; 13 arms and 8 ammunition export licenses issued;

• Cooperation and capacity building support to border posts by FRONTEX reported;

• Regular exchange of information ongoing with INTERPOL and EUROPOL.
• Awareness raising activities reported by several cantons focusing with specific focus on youth, legal owners, on celebratory shooting and gender-based violence, mostly as part of community policing;

• Number of firearm incidents decreased (82 vs 125); Number of incidents committed with firearms in legal possession continues to be relatively high (35 vs 45);

• High number of suicides with firearms (15), but much lower than the previous period (42);

• Lower number of legalized firearms (80 vs 539) and slightly higher number of deactivated ones (14 vs 11) compared to the previous period;
Systematically decrease the surplus and destroy seized small arms and light weapons and ammunition

Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition and explosives.

• Decrease of number of confiscated firearms (56 vs 131) and slight increase of number of confiscated ammunition (3,970 vs 3,469) compared to the previous report;

• Destruction of confiscated and surplus of firearms and ammunition reported in this period;

• 15 firearms reported lost by civilians during the reporting period;

• Regular and ad-hoc inspections of various legal entities reported by several cantons and institutions;

• Security storages upgrade reported ongoing in two armed forces locations and further need for support indicated.
IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

- Implementation of activities in a complex political and institutional setting;
- Institutional set up makes collection, reporting and analysis of data and information submitted a complex process;
- COVID-19 and government measures related to both social distancing and restriction of movement, which affected implementation of several planned activities, including inspections, awareness and outreach, working groups meetings;
- Changes or delays in implementation by partners of project activities in support to the Government due to COVID-19 including procurement of equipment, assessments, capacity building and ammunition disposal activities.
• Better understanding of the impact of COVID-19 and reflection in the new Strategy and Action Plan implementation and its timelines;

• Adoption of Strategy and Action Plan and establishment and operationalization of Firearms Focal Point/s as key analytical units in support of firearm related crimes investigations;

• Increased focus on reducing illicit possession and misuse of FAE through awareness, collection and legalization activities;

• Increased capacities for data recording and collection, in particular at operational level and from judiciary;

• Confiscated weapons and surplus ammunition disposal and improvement of storages security as means to reduce their proliferation.
THANK YOU