

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) - Tirana

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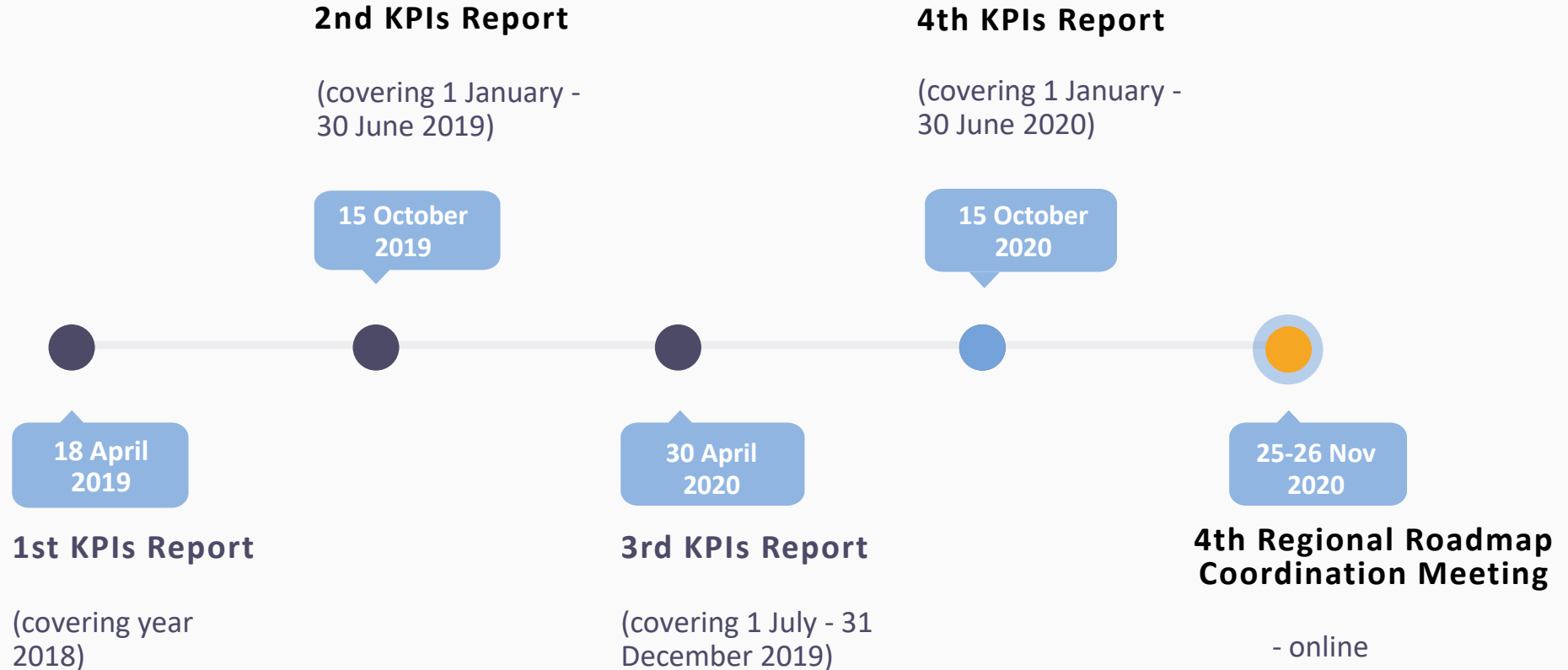


ROADMAP IMPLEMENTATION:

Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

- Biannual progress reports documenting the progress, challenges and needs in the Roadmap implementation, against the KPIs and its goals;
- Web-platform established allowing simultaneous uploading of data under each KPI and providing various levels of access;
- 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



PROGRESS REPORT –
GOAL I
KEY FINDINGS (KPI I)

	2018	2019	2020
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 ratified			
UN Firearms Protocol Ratified			

Fully harmonized
 Partially harmonized
 Not harmonized

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.

- A SALW Commission is in place coordinating and monitoring implementation of SALW Control Strategy (2019-2024) and Action plan (2019-2021);
- Data collection not standardized; No concrete steps taken yet to standardize collection of gender-disaggregated data allowing for a better analysis on the impact of SALW.
- Firearms Information Management System (SIMA) – established and weapons registering process ongoing.
- Firearms Focal Point established and operational in 2019; Collecting data from key databases and generating regular analytic reports;
- Direct access to and regular use of EUROPOL's SIENA; INTERPOL's iARMS data input reported; 7 records entered in iARMS in the reporting period;
- Tracing of firearms conducted on regular basis; 62 searches recorded in the reporting period;
- Accreditation process of ballistic laboratory ongoing, process delayed due to COVID-19.

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.

- A case management system established on data exchange among law enforcement and criminal justice system but not specific for FAE. Full implementation still pending;
- Number of illegal possession cases reported in the reporting period much higher than those of trafficking (227 vs 6);

**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.

- Number of seizures inland is much higher to those at the border during the reporting period;
- Number of firearms seized lower than in the previous period.

	Inland seizures			Seizures at the border		
	I-2019	II-2019	I-2020	I-2019	II-2019	I-2020
Cases of seized FAE	No data	325	204	No data	1	2
Seized firearms (pieces)	161	303	219	4	0	2
Seized ammunition (pieces)	1,400	10,953	16,844	721	88	10
Seized explosives (grams/pcs)	120,000 gr	1,000 gr	7,800 gr	0	0	0

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.

- Operational cooperation with Europol, cooperation with EMPACT (preparation for participation in JADs in 2020); Continued cooperation with FRONTEX;
- 2 trafficking cases detected during the reporting period;
- No diversion of arms exports reported; Inputs for regional arms export report 2018; No arms export licenses issued and realized in the reporting period;
- Exchange of information ongoing with INTERPOL, EUROPOL and FRONTEX reported.

PROGRESS REPORT – GOALS 4 & 5 KEY FINDINGS (I0 & I1)

By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.

By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans.

- Number of firearm incidents (65/67) slightly decreased; Number of incidents committed with firearms in legal possession in increase this period (18/11);
- Lower number of deaths (19/21), injuries (25/39) and suicides (5/6) with firearms compared to the previous report;
- 3 voluntarily surrendered firearms reported;
- No legalization or deactivation of firearms reported until now;
- No awareness raising activities targeting FAE producers and general population conducted;
- Awareness-raising meetings with school students addressing gender-based violence held.

PROGRESS REPORT –
GOALS 6 & 7
KEY FINDINGS (KPI 12 & 13)

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 (177/303) and increase of number of confiscated ammunition (16,844/10,953) compared to the previous report;
- Disposal of 2.4 tons of ammunition by MoD reported;
- 7 lost/stolen firearms recorded during the reporting period;
- Continued inspections of legal entities by the Mol performed;
- Ongoing activities related to upgrade of security infrastructure in MoD and Mol storage facilities; Further support needed in this regard.

IMPLEMENTATION CHALLENGES

- Shift in priorities focusing on disaster response related to major earthquake at the end 2019, affecting implementation of planned activities;
- COVID-19 and government measures related to both social distancing and restriction of movement, which affected implementation of several planned activities;
- Activities mostly affected those related to awareness raising, accreditation processes, capacity building, justice response and procurement of equipment.
- Changes or delays in implementation by partners of project activities (including procurement of equipment) in support to the Government due to COVID-19;

RECOMMENDED KEY ACTIONS

- Better understanding of the impact of COVID-19 into Action Plan implementation and its timelines;
- Increased focus on armed violence prevention and firearms demand reduction through awareness and outreach activities;
- Strengthen capacities of criminal justice response and firearms related investigations, with special focus on illicit arms trafficking.



THANK YOU