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

Monitoring Framework (5th Regional Progress Report)
6 July 2021

Juliana Buzi
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SEESAC
ROADMAP IMPLEMENTATION:

Monitoring & Evaluation Platform

- A unique coordination and monitoring platform has been established. Supported through EU CD 2018/1788.

- Biannual local coordination meetings organized by the SALW Commissions, reviewing implementation of Roadmap Action Plans.

- Four regional roadmap coordination meetings organized, taking stock of implementation of the Roadmap.

- Five progress reports against the KPIs and roadmap goals issued.

- A consolidated document on projects under implementation by international organizations distributed biannually.
SUPPORT TO WB SALW CONTROL ROADMAP

- 32 fully funded projects
- 10 partially funded projects
- 6 jurisdictions
- 13 implementing partners
- 9 donors
- ≈41 mil. EUR in support of the Roadmap
FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN A NUTSHELL (2018-2020)

- European Union: 15.8 mil. EUR
- Germany: 15.75 mil. EUR
- France: 4.2 mil. EUR
- United Kingdom: 2.96 mil. GBP
- United States: 2.3 mil. USD

MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND

- Germany: 7.45 mil. EUR
- United Kingdom: 2 mil. GBP
- Netherlands: 1.5 mil. EUR
- Sweden: 14 mil. SEK
- France: 0.9 mil. EUR
- Norway: 5 mil. NOK
SUPPORT OVER THE YEARS

2021: 7 new projects started
2020: 11 new projects started
2019: 8 new projects started
2018: 5 new projects started
14 projects contributing to

**Goal 1.**
**LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK ON SALW/FIREARMS**
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.

4/6 overall targets

19 projects contributing to

**Goal 2.**
**EVIDENCE BASED POLICIES AND INTELLIGENCE LED POLICING**
By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence based and intelligence led.

7/9 overall targets

19 projects contributing to

**Goal 3.**
**ILlicit TRADE AND ARMS EXPORT CONTROL**
By 2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.

4/4 overall targets
Goal 4.
**AWARENESS, EDUCATION, ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH**
By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.

15 projects contributing to 8/9 overall targets

Goal 5.
**SALW/FIREARMS VOLUNTARY SURRENDER, LEGALIZATION AND DEACTIVATION**
By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans.

11 projects contributing to 2/4 overall targets

Goal 6.
**SALW/FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION DESTRUCTION**
Systematically decrease the surplus and destroy seized small arms and light weapons and ammunition.

9 projects contributing to 2/2 overall targets

Goal 7.
**STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT**
Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition and explosives.

19 projects contributing to 2/4 overall targets
REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONTRIBUTIONS

Goal 1
- SEESAC
- UNODC
- Bundesamt für Wirtschaft und Ausfuhrkontrolle

Goal 2
- NABIS
- EMPACT

Goal 3
- EMPACT
- UNODC
- SEESAC

Goal 4
- Bundesamt für Wirtschaft und Ausfuhrkontrolle
- giz
- SEESAC

Goal 5
- UNODC
- UNDP
- OSCE

Goal 6
- UNODC
- UNDP
- OSCE
- ITF

Goal 7
- SEESAC
- NSP
- UNDP
- THE HALO TRUST
- CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION
KEY FINDINGS – 5TH REGIONAL PROGRESS REPORT
Progress in harmonization of laws/bylaws with EU Acquis reported by five jurisdictions:

- Belgrade: Draft Law on explosives pending adoption; Rulebook on the method of performing control during testing, marking, individual testing, ....... as well as the layout of markings and stamps adopted.
- Podgorica: Preparation of amendments to laws on weapons and on production of firearms reported;
- Skopje: Draft Law on Development, Production and Trade in Military Goods pending adoption; Drafting of Law on explosive materials (including pyrotechnics) ongoing; Rulebook on deactivation of firearms adopted.
- Sarajevo: New law on weapons of Una-Sana Canton adopted (in 2021).
- Tirana: Amended law on weapons adopted; Draft Laws on explosive for civil use and pyrotechnic articles pending adoption.

Analysis on level of harmonization of legal framework with the EU Acquis reported by several jurisdictions.

Assessment of level of compliance of criminal codes with the UN Firearms Protocol finalized in several jurisdictions.
GOAL 2: BY 2024, ENSURE THAT ARMS CONTROL POLICIES AND PRACTICES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS ARE EVIDENCE-BASED AND INTELLIGENCE-LED

- SALW Commissions in place, coordinating and monitoring activities under SALW Strategy and Roadmap Action Plan.
  - Sarajevo - New SALW Strategy and Action Plan adopted;
  - At least three jurisdictions to initiate evaluation of current SALW Strategies/AP in 2021, as well as drafting new ones.

- Extensive gender analysis of legal and regulatory framework for arms control undertaken in all jurisdictions.

- Improved data collection on distribution and impact of SALW/firearms by several jurisdictions, yet to be standardized in all jurisdictions.
Firearms Focal Points established in five jurisdictions and operational to various degrees.
  - Draft decision on establishment of WG for the setting up the FFP in Sarajevo adopted in 2021.
  - Connection of relevant databases and production of analytical reports by several jurisdictions.

Most jurisdictions reported that the accreditation process of ballistic laboratories still ongoing.
  - Capacities of Tirana’s and Belgrade’s CSI units and ballistic labs significantly improved.
  - New ABIS (Evofinder) installed in Belgrade, Podgorica, Sarajevo and Skopje.
  - Improved marking and tracing capacities reported by four jurisdictions.

GOAL 2: BY 2024, ENSURE THAT ARMS CONTROL POLICIES AND PRACTICES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS ARE EVIDENCE-BASED AND INTELLIGENCE-LED
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- **Increased exchange** of operational and strategic information and data reported in 2020 through various channels and tools (iARMS, SIENA, etc).
  - Challenge emphasized by Pristina relates to no direct access to these channels.

- Information exchange between law enforcement agencies, prosecution and judiciary system is still identified as the **weak link** by all jurisdictions.

- Number of cases and individuals reported for illegal possession of FAE continues to be much higher than those for trafficking of FAE.
Increased support on strengthening border police capacities:
- Needs assessments of border police capacities completed in Belgrade, Podgorica, Pristina, Skopje and Tirana;
- Needs assessment of the customs capacities conducted in Sarajevo;
- Strengthening of K9 capacities in support of fighting the illicit trafficking planned.

Development of SoPs for the combat of the illegal trade of firearms reported by Sarajevo and Tirana.

Planned assessment to identify needs and gaps in countering firearms trafficking through postal and courier shipments.

Increased regional and operational cooperation with EUROPOL, INTERPOL, FRONTEX and EMPACT reported by authorities.

Participation in Joint Action Days reported by all jurisdictions; Several participated in operations Bosphorus (Conversus) and Armstrong VII 2020.

No diversion of arms exports reported in 2020.
### KPI 4 – SEIZURES IN 2020

#### Cases of seized FAE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Inland</th>
<th>At the border</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgrade</td>
<td>1,398</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podgorica</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pristina</td>
<td>1,207</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarajevo</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>1*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skopje</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirana</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data for Sarajevo was partially available in 2020.

#### Pieces of seized firearms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Inland</th>
<th>At the border</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgrade</td>
<td>1,555</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podgorica</td>
<td>287</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pristina</td>
<td>32,340</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarajevo</td>
<td>1,118</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skopje</td>
<td>1,105</td>
<td>156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirana</td>
<td>469</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Pieces of seized ammunition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Inland</th>
<th>At the border</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgrade</td>
<td>41,435</td>
<td>6,069</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podgorica</td>
<td>9,403</td>
<td>1,766</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pristina</td>
<td>32,340</td>
<td>496</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarajevo</td>
<td>25,009</td>
<td>81*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skopje</td>
<td>7,166</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirana</td>
<td>38,561</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data for Sarajevo was partially available in 2020.
KPI 4 – SEIZURES

Cases of seized FAE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Inland</th>
<th>At the border</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>3,549</td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>3,498</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>3,477</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pieces of seized firearms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Inland</th>
<th>At the border</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>4,807</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>4,932</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>4,690</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pieces of seized ammunition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Inland</th>
<th>At the border</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>107,762</td>
<td>6,835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>122,928</td>
<td>9,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>153,914</td>
<td>8,482</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Activities related to awareness, outreach and education continue to be quite limited.
- Activities under this goal reported as most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Technical and financial support needed to develop and plan awareness raising activities reported by at least four jurisdictions.

Voluntarily surrendered weapons reported by four jurisdictions (Belgrade, Podgorica, Sarajevo, Tirana);
- Number quite low, with exception of Belgrade.

Reduction of firearms and ammunition in illicit possession relying mostly on intelligence work through seizures and confiscations.

GOAL 4: BY 2024, SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCE THE SUPPLY, DEMAND AND MISUSE OF FIREARMS THROUGH INCREASED AWARENESS, EDUCATION, OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

GOAL 5: BY 2024, SUBSTANTIALLY DECREASE THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FIREARMS IN ILLICIT POSSESSION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS
Legalization of firearms reported by Belgrade and Sarajevo. Weapons re-registration reported by Belgrade.

Deactivation reported by Belgrade, Podgorica and Sarajevo – though numbers remain low. Deactivation not used yet by the authorities in Skopje and Pristina due to lack of legal basis.

Need for support in developing and organizing voluntary surrender and legalization campaigns by at least three jurisdictions.

GOAL 5: BY 2024, SUBSTANTIALLY DECREASE THE ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FIREARMS IN ILLICIT POSSESSION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS
KPI 10 – NUMBER OF FIREARM INCIDENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgrade</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>292</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podgorica</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>281</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pristina</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarajevo</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skopje</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirana</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
KPI 11 – DEATHS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgrade</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podgorica</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pristina</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarajevo</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skopje</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirana</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

KPI 11 – SUICIDES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgrade</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podgorica</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pristina</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarajevo</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skopje</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirana</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- How threatened do you feel by the illegal possession and misuse of weapons in your neighborhood (as in crime, domestic violence, celebratory shooting, etc.)?

![Bar chart showing the percentage of respondents feeling threatened in different regions.](chart.png)

- **Region**
  - Tirana: 8% (I feel very threatened), 48% (I feel threatened), 43% (I do not feel threatened at all), 2% (DK/Refuse)
  - Sarajevo: 15% (I feel very threatened), 35% (I feel threatened), 46% (I do not feel threatened at all), 4% (DK/Refuse)
  - Pristina: 18% (I feel very threatened), 38% (I feel threatened), 40% (I do not feel threatened at all), 4% (DK/Refuse)
  - Skopje: 23% (I feel very threatened), 33% (I feel threatened), 44% (I do not feel threatened at all), 1% (DK/Refuse)
  - Podgorica: 1% (I feel very threatened), 21% (I feel threatened), 70% (I do not feel threatened at all), 7% (DK/Refuse)
  - Belgrade: 5% (I feel very threatened), 34% (I feel threatened), 56% (I do not feel threatened at all), 5% (DK/Refuse)
  - Region: 12% (I feel very threatened), 35% (I feel threatened), 50% (I do not feel threatened at all), 4% (DK/Refuse)

**Indago | Balkan Barometer 2021 | Public Opinion Survey on “Attitudes towards Security: Perceptions of Security and Threats in WB” | Quantitative research**
### KPI 14 –
Percentage of citizens feeling threatened by the illegal possession and misuse of weapons in their neighborhood

How threatened do you feel by the illegal possession and misuse of weapons in your neighborhood (as in crime, domestic violence, celebratory shooting, etc.)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th></th>
<th>2019</th>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>W</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-24</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-44</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45-54</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55-64</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65 and over</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVERAGE</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td></td>
<td>46%</td>
<td></td>
<td>46%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Would you consider owning a gun?

- **Region**
  - Yes: 6%
  - No: 91%
  - I already have a gun: 3%
  - DK/Refuse: 1%

- **Belgrade**
  - Yes: 5%
  - No: 91%
  - I already have a gun: 3%
  - DK/Refuse: 1%

- **Podgorica**
  - Yes: 4%
  - No: 90%
  - I already have a gun: 5%
  - DK/Refuse: 1%

- **Skopje**
  - Yes: 14%
  - No: 82%
  - I already have a gun: 4%

- **Pristina**
  - Yes: 7%
  - No: 93%
  - I already have a gun: 0.4%

- **Sarajevo**
  - Yes: 4%
  - No: 92%
  - I already have a gun: 3%
  - DK/Refuse: 1%

- **Tirana**
  - Yes: 3%
  - No: 95%
  - I already have a gun: 1%
### KPI 11 – VOLUNTARY SURRENDERED FIREARMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgrade</td>
<td>24,499</td>
<td>37,210</td>
<td>50,011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podgorica</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pristina</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,415</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarajevo</td>
<td>1,421</td>
<td>1,238</td>
<td>972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skopje</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>No data</td>
<td>No data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirana</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>26,120</td>
<td>39,974</td>
<td>51,102</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
KPI 11 – LEGALIZED & DEACTIVATED FIREARMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Legalized</th>
<th>Deactivated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>1,382</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Legend:
- Belgrade
- Podgorica
- Pristina
- Sarajevo
- Skopje
- Tirana
GOAL 6: SYSTEMATICALLY DECREASE THE SURPLUS AND DESTROY SEIZED SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION

- Destruction of confiscated FAE reported by only one jurisdiction (Sarajevo).

- Disposal of surplus FAE reported by three jurisdictions (Belgrade, Sarajevo, Tirana). Need for financial support indicated by at least two jurisdictions (Belgrade, Sarajevo).

- Destruction of SALW/firearms planned to be conducted in II-2021 by several jurisdictions.
▪ Regular and ad-hoc inspections of legal entities were reported by all jurisdictions.

▪ Continued work on increasing safety and security of both law enforcement and armed forces storage facilities reported by five jurisdictions.

▪ Need for further international support for security enhancement was reported by Belgrade and Podgorica.

▪ Need for support in preparation of Standard Operating Procedures on handling lost and stolen weapons reported by Skopje.
## LOST/STOLEN FIREARMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgrade</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Podgorica</td>
<td>9*</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pristina</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarajevo</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skopje</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tirana</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>744</strong></td>
<td><strong>2284</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Data for Podgorica was not available for I-2019.*
COVID-19 and government measures related to both social distancing and restriction of movement, continued to affect a number of activities, including:

- Meetings of working groups;
- Awareness and outreach activities;
- Regular inspections to legal entities;
- Capacity building activities (including trainings and workshops); and
- Weapons/ammunition disposal activities.

Key staff of several institutions directly affected by COVID-19;

Shift in priorities by government authorities to respond to the crisis, in particular of police services;

Changes or delays in implementation of activities by project partners due to COVID-19.
THANK YOU