# SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS CONTROL STRATEGY IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

2021-2024



#### COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

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The Small Arms and Light Weapons Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2021–2024 was drafted by the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina, representatives of the relevant authorities and international partners involved in the implementation of the strategic goals in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Strategy was drafted with the support of the Regional Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (hereinafter, SEESAC), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter, OSCE), United Nations Development Programme (hereinafter, UNDP) and the Delegation of the European Union, more specifically the European Union Special Representative to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The opinions and views expressed in this document do not necessarily reflect the opinions and views of UNDP, OSCE, SEESAC or other international partners.

### **MISSION**

To enhance the legal and institutional frameworks on small arms and light weapons, improve cooperation and awareness raising as key prerequisites for the establishment of adequate mechanisms for the successful control of small arms and light weapons and their impact on citizens and to continuously strengthen all resources in this important process and create a safe environment both in Bosnia and Herzegovina and beyond.

### **VISION**

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a safe society where comprehensive and sustainable mechanisms are in place to identify, prevent, prosecute and control the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of firearms and ammunition.



## Definition of small arms and light weapons – SALW

"Small arms and light weapons are manportable weapons made or modified to military specifications for use as lethal instruments of war.

Small arms are broadly categorised as those arms intended for use of individual members of armed or security forces. They include revolvers and self-loading pistols, rifles and carabines, semiautomatic rifles, assault rifles and light machine guns.

Light weapons are broadly categorised as those weapons intended for use by several members of armed or security forces serving as a crew. The category includes heavy machine guns, handheld and mounted grenade launchers, portable anti-aircraft guns, portable antitank guns, recoilless rifles, portable launchers of antitank missile and rocket systems, portable launchers of anti-aircraft missile systems and mortars under 100 mm calibre."



#### BACKGROUND

On the basis of the United Nations Action Programme (2001)¹ and the OSCE Small Arms and Light Weapons Paper (adopted in 2000 and reissued in 2012)² as well as other international documents in this domain, in particular the Protocol against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition (adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on 31 May 2001 and coming into effect on 3 July 2005), Bosnia and Herzegovina has proceeded to address these issues systematically through the adoption and implementation of the first small arms and light weapons control strategy for the period of 2006–2012, the second strategy for the period 2013–2016 and the strategy for the period 2016–2020. These strategies included the activities and obligations cited in the European Strategy for Combating Illicit Accumulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and Accompanying Ammunition from 2006.

Bosnia and Herzegovina ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime on 24 February 2002 and acceded to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking of Firearms, Their Parts and Ammunition on 1 April 2008. Bosnia and Herzegovina has also signed and ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (hereinafter, ATT), which is a global treaty that establishes the highest international standards for the import, export or transfer of conventional arms.

The control of small arms and light weapons (hereinafter, SALW) is high on the list of security priorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This is primarily a result of the large quantity of weapons retained from the conflict that occurred in its territory and because of the emergence of new forms of firearms related to criminality both in the region of South East Europe and beyond in the European Union Member States.

According to the document 'Organized Crime Threat Assessment in Bosnia and Herzegovina', which was adopted by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2017, it is evident that the illegal purchase of and trafficking in arms in Bosnia and Herzegovina has intensified. These weapons are used by persons linked to organised crime, mainly for smuggling but also as a mean for committing other crimes in this country. This problem is a result of increased demand in the EU countries for black market weapons and of the presence of weapons retained from the conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations Paper A/CONF.192/15, New York, July 2001.

<sup>2</sup> OSCE SALW Paper FSC.DOC/1/00, November 2000; OSCE Decision FSC.DEC/3/12, June 2012.

In response, the Roadmap for a Sustainable Solution to the Illegal Possession, Misuse and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their Ammunition in the Western Balkans (hereinafter, the Roadmap) was developed and adopted under the auspices of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Government of the Republic of France, the European Union, the Regional Cooperation Council and the governments of the Western Balkan countries, including Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Roadmap defines clear goals, targets and timeframes that cover all functional fields of arms control. By accepting the Roadmap, Bosnia and Herzegovina has demonstrated its full commitment to establishing a comprehensive SALW control framework. Bosnia and Herzegovina will develop an action plan for the implementation of the Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Strategy, which will take into consideration, among others, the goals defined in the Roadmap.

The Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2021–2024 (hereinafter, the Strategy) provides an overall platform for commonly agreed levels of performance and outlines the commitment required at the strategic, policy and operational level by its beneficiaries. This builds on the political commitment to the United Nations 'Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects' as well as the legal obligation stemming from the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition (The Firearms Protocol).

The Strategy is a continuation and expansion of activities aimed at further strengthening the efficiency of all stakeholders within the domain of the control of SALW in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is aimed at the continued harmonisation of the legislation with European and international best practice and further improvement of control over the internal and foreign trade in arms. It is also aimed at achieving a further reduction in the number of incidents caused through the use of arms and in the number of illicit arms possessed by citizens in this country. This will improve civic trust in the institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina at all levels of government and help to reduce the amount of surplus SALW under the possession of the Ministry of Defence/Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Special attention is given to strengthening the overall administrative and investigative capacities of all of the competent bodies in Bosnia and Herzegovina with a view to preventing illicit possession and smuggling of SALW. Through implementation of the projected strategic goals and further development of international and regional cooperation in this area Bosnia and Herzegovina will contribute not only towards improvement of general security within the country but also the region as well as globally.

Implementation of the strategic priorities set out in this document will further facilitate the efforts of Bosnia and Herzegovina to meet some of the key conditions of the European Union accession process. This relates to the conditions set forth in the new European Commission strategy 'A credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans', the annexed Action Plan in Support of the Transformation of the Western Balkans, the Commission's Opinion on Bosnia and Herzegovina's application for membership of the EU and the accompanying analytical report.

The EU Strategy Against Illicit Firearms, Small Arms and Light Weapons and Their Ammunition that was adopted in November 2019 places special emphasis on the Western Balkans. This strategy states that the EU will maintain cooperation with relevant regional organisations in the field of SALW control and will take regional initiatives such as the Roadmap into account. The Action Plan on Firearms Trafficking, adopted in July 2020, also recognises the importance of the Roadmap. Annex 3 to the action plan defines a set of specific activities that integrate the Roadmap in line with the Council Decision to fund its implementation.<sup>3</sup>

The Strategy was initiated by the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which is an expert interinstitutional body founded by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The terms used in the Strategy are provided in a single grammatical gender for the sake of clarity and apply to both men and women without discrimination. Implementation of the previous SALW control strategies attained significant results, as reported to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina annually by the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Coordination Board reports regularly to the United Nations, in accordance with the Plan of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, the OSCE and the Secretariat of the Arms Trade Treaty on progress in the control of SALW in Bosnia and Herzegovina. These reports have contributed significantly to the transparency of processes and leadership in this domain as well as to the international reputation of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In cooperation with the relevant authorities at the state, entity, canton and Brčko District (hereinafter, Brčko District) level, the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina shall prepare an action plan with measurable objectives and specific indicators against which the progress made in Bosnia and Herzegovina can be measured.

<sup>3</sup> Council Decision (CFSP) 2018/1788 of 19 November 2018 in support of the South-Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC) for the implementation of the Regional Roadmap on Combating Illicit Arms Trafficking in the Western Balkans.

### THE MOST SIGNIFICANT RESULTS FROM IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2016–2020 STRATEGY

Most activities set out in the Action Plan were implemented during the implementation period of the previous strategy. Most important were the following:

- → A total of 21,144 pieces of SALW were destroyed.
- → Successful cooperation was achieved with international organisations active in the field of SALW control (meetings were organised with, among others, the Regional Network of SALW Commissions, SEEFEN, SEEFEG and RACVIAC).
- → Support for the preparation and publication of regional reports on the actual number of weapons and military equipment imported or exported continued.
- → Analyses and assessments of the legal frameworks for SALW control were developed.
- → Upgrades to the AAERG⁴ software supported maintenance of the database on all permits issued for the import/export of weapons and military equipment.
- → Support was provided for the establishment of a database on companies registered for arms and military equipment brokering.
- → The relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted laws on arms and ammunition with a view to harmonising them with the EU acquis.<sup>5</sup>
- → The Law on Marking of Small Arms, Light Weapons and Accompanying Ammunition ('Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina, No. 83/16) was adopted.
- → Statistics on legal arms possessed by citizens in Bosnia and Herzegovina were collected in support of monitoring annual trends.

**<sup>4</sup>** Annual Arms Export Report Generator.

**<sup>5</sup>** Council Directive 91/477/EEC of 18 June 1991 on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons; Directive 2008/51/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 amending Council Directive 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons; Directive (EU) 2017/853 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 amending Council Directive 91/477/EEC on control of the acquisition and possession of weapons.

- → A total of six warehouses used for the storage of SALW at police agencies were reconstructed.
- → Police operations resulted in the collection of significant quantities of illicit weapons.
- → Actions to destroy surpluses in the possession of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina continued. A total of 7,706.32 tonnes were destroyed over a period of four years.
- → The document 'Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of small arms and light weapons/firearms and their ammunition' was adopted in July 2018 as part of the Berlin Process. This reiterated the political commitment towards reinforcing SALW control and non-proliferation that was confirmed through the adoption of a Joint Statement of Ministers.
- → By 26 October 2020, a total of 59,000 pieces of weapons or 95 per cent of the total planned number had been labelled.
- → The Draft Law on Weapons of the Una-Sana Canton along with the respective tables of concordance were prepared and forwarded to the Directorate for European Integration for its opinion. Following a positive opinion, the Draft Law on Weapons will pass through parliamentary procedure. This Law will serve as a model for the alignment of other weapons laws in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- → A number of laws and amendments to laws on weapons were adopted, including the Law on Amendments to the Republika Srpska Law on Weapons and Ammunition ('Official Gazette of Republika Srpska', nos. 18/17, 31/18 and 58/19), the Law on Weapons and Ammunition of Posavina Canton ('Official Gazette of 'Posavina Canton', No. 4/18), the Law on Amendments to the Law on the Acquisition, Carrying and Possession of Weapons and Ammunition of Sarajevo Canton ('Official Gazette of 'Sarajevo Canton', nos. 1/18, 13/18 − corrigendum and 30/19), the Law on Acquisition, Possession and Carrying of Weapons and Ammunition of Bosnia-Podrinje Canton ('Official Gazette of Bosnia-Podrinje Canton', No. 10/17) and the Law on Weapons and Ammunition of Tuzla Canton ('Official Gazette of Tuzla Canton', nos. 17/15, 5/16, 17/17 and 8/20).

### STRATEGIC GOALS FOR THE PERIOD 2021–2024

The Strategy defines four strategic goals for improved SALW control in Bosnia and Herzegovina, more specifically:

- 1. Improvement/harmonisation of the legal framework and implementation of the SALW legislation.
- 2. Reduced misuse, illegal possession and trafficking of firearms and ammunition.
- 3. Management of SALW in the possession of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- 4. International and regional cooperation and collaboration with civil society organisations

### IMPLEMENTATION RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD 2016–2020 AND ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE PERIOD 2021–2024

Improvement/harmonisation of the legal framework and implementation of the SALW legislation

In relation to the strategic goal 'Improvement/harmonisation of the legal framework and implementation of SALW legislation', the Strategy acknowledges the requirement to monitor activities aimed at the harmonisation of laws on the possession and carrying of weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina with that of the relevant European Union legislation. It further acknowledges the need for closer inter-agency cooperation on implementing the legislation concerning the internal and foreign trade in weapons in order to facilitate adequate information and position exchange among different bodies involved in weapons trade control and their respective competencies.

There are 12 laws that regulate the field of civilian firearms and ammunition in Bosnia and Herzegovina. These laws were passed on the basis of the constitutional competencies of Republika Srpska, the ten cantons of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and of Brčko District. They are partially harmonised with the relevant EU directives in the field of control of the acquisition and possession of weapons; however, the relevant institutions need to further harmonise the legislation in order to ensure proper harmonisation with the European acquis.

During implementation of the 2016–2020 strategy, the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina continuously coordinated the harmonisation of the legislation in this field and cooperated with the relevant domestic authorities and international partners. This will remain one of the areas of work that will be prioritised in the forthcoming period.

Activities have been finalised with respect to dividing the existing Law on the Control of Foreign Trade in Commodities and Services, which is of strategic significance in terms of the security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, into two laws. This covers the foreign trade in arms and military equipment, as harmonised with the United Nations Protocol, the Common EU Position on Arms Export, and the commitments undertaken in line with the Arms Trade Treaty.

In this respect, the following laws have been adopted:

- → Law on Control of Foreign Trade in Arms, Military Equipment and Special Purpose Commodities ('Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina', No. 53/16);
- → Law on Control of Foreign Trade in Dual Purpose Commodities ('Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina', No. 53/16)<sup>6</sup>;
- → Law on the Marking of Small Arms, Light Weapons and Accompanying Ammunition ('Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina', No. 83/16), which is harmonised with Council Directive 91/477/EEC of 18 June1991 on the control of acquisition and possession of weapons, including the 2008 amendments.

In addition to the items mentioned above, the Law on Amendments to the Law on Control of the Movement of Arms and Military Equipment ('Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina', No. 22/16) was adopted. The aforementioned Law regulates certain specific issues related to the control of the movement of arms and military equipment in Bosnia and Herzegovina in more detail.

In addition to the relevant entity and canton level institutions, the Directorate for European Integration of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken an active part in all activities aimed at harmonising the legislation. The Directorate provided active advisory assistance and prepared the harmonisation instruments. During the previous strategy implementation period, seminars on

**<sup>6</sup>** The Law is partially harmonised with Council Regulation (EC) No. 428/2009 of 5 May 2009 on setting up a Community regime for the control of the export, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items (recast);

Regulation (EU) No. 1232/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 November 2011 on amending Council Regulation (EC) No. 428/2009 on setting up a Community regime for the control of the export, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items; Regulation (EU) No. 388/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 April 2012 on amending Council Regulation (EC) No. 428/2009 on setting up a Community regime for the control of the export, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items; Regulation (EU) No. 599/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on amending Council Regulation (EC) No. 428/2009 on setting up a Community regime for the control of exports, transfer, brokering and transit of dual-use items and the Council Joint Action of 22 June 2000 concerning the control of technical assistance related to certain military enduses.

this topic were organised during which international regulations in this field were presented together with the modalities for their incorporation into the legislation in Bosnia and Herzegovina at the state, entity, canton and Brčko District level.

After signing the Stabilisation and Association Agreement with the European Community and its Member States ('Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina', International agreements, nos. 10/08, 1/17 and 8/17), Bosnia and Herzegovina undertook to align its existing and future legislation and to ensure that the aligned legislation is properly implemented and enforced by the end of the transition period of six years starting from the date that its entry into the Stabilisation and Association Agreement came into force.

On 29 May 2019, the European Commission issued its Opinion on Bosnia and Herzegovina's application for membership of the European Union. This included the accompanying Analytical Report that stated, "At all levels of government, legislation on the civil possession of weapons is partly aligned with the acquis and needs to be further improved, in particular regarding explosives and transport of dangerous goods."

It was further stated that Bosnia and Herzegovina should, "improve traceability of seized and confiscated weapons, notably by amending the Bosnia and Herzegovina Law on Marking to cover these types of firearms."

At its meeting held in December 2019 the Sub-committee on Justice, Freedom and Security urged the authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to, "further strengthen and align the legal framework with EU acquis, notably legislation on civil possession of weapons, explosives for civil use and transport of dangerous goods."

The foregoing shows that Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken significant steps towards the harmonisation of its SALW legislation with that of the European and international legal frameworks. However, further activities in this field are required in the forthcoming period to achieve full harmonisation of the legislation in this field. For that purpose, it is necessary to further harmonise the legislation at all levels of government and to prepare tables of concordance of the legislation with the EU Weapons Directive as well as other regulations.

Special attention should be given to regulating the deactivation of SALW, in line with the EU recommendations and best practice. Issues related to improved tracking of seized or confiscated weapons should be regulated in line with the constitutional structure and division of competency among the different levels

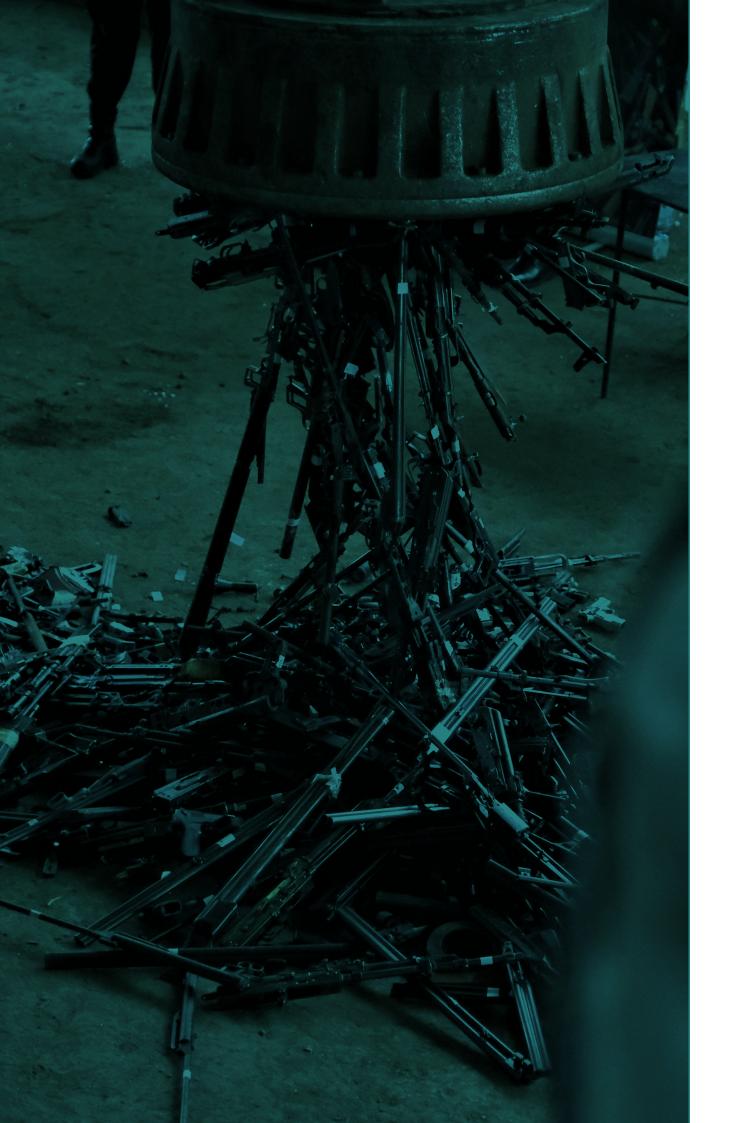
of government in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In the process of adopting the Law on Marking of Small Arms, Light Weapons and their Ammunition an agreement was reached with the relevant authorities in the entities and Brčko District that any amendments to this Law should be planned and implemented in the same manner.

In order to ensure efficient casework, it is necessary in the forthcoming period to improve the record on the import and export of weapons and military equipment and the record on the movement of weapons and military equipment in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

During the implementation period of the Strategy, Bosnia and Herzegovina will work towards signing the WASSENAAR Arrangement.

Over the forthcoming period, Bosnia and Herzegovina shall conduct the following activities related to this strategic goal:

- → develop an all-encompassing situational analysis that covers the harmonisation of legislation in Bosnia and Herzegovina with that of the European and international legal frameworks in the field of SALW control;
- → continue the harmonisation of the legislative and the administrative frameworks and their full implementation;
- → strengthen own capacities to combat the trade in SALW and their ammunition.



## Reduce misuse, illegal possession and trafficking of firearms and ammunition

During the implementation period of the Strategy, the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina shall, in cooperation with all police agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina and through the support and efforts of the European Commission, OSCE, UNDP and the Regional Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC), implement activities for the disposal of seized and collected SALW.

In 2016, 2,500 pieces and parts of weapons were destroyed, with 10,801 in 2017, 2,500 in 2018, 3,479 in 2019 and 1,864 in 2020. During these events, the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina were warned about the threat posed by surplus weapons and poorly secured or illicit weapons and the impact that they can have on their safety. The implementation of all of these activities has made a significant contribution towards improving overall stability both in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the region and beyond.

The collection and disposal of the aforementioned quantity of SALW was a result of the successful efforts of all police agencies and bodies in Bosnia and Herzegovina in combatting the illicit trade in weapons. The significance of this result is reflected in the fact that during a coordinated campaign centred on awareness raising and the collection of illegal weapons that was implemented over the period 2013 to 2016 more than 11,000 pieces and parts of SALW were collected and destroyed in this country.

#### Monitoring of statistics in the domain of SALW

During the 2016–2020 implementation period, the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina also worked on the collection of statistical data on legally registered weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This activity is important because in Bosnia and Herzegovina there are 12 laws on weapons and this results in the use of different methodologies when compiling the relevant data.

Total number of registered weapons for 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019

	2016	2017	2018	2019
FBiH	168,548	190,588	169,584	182,508
RS	168,550	132,113	104,678	127,824
Brčko District	4,226	4,124	4,010	3,991
Total in BiH	341,324	326,825	278,272	314,323

In 2018, in cooperation with the South Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC) and the relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina finalised the activities to collect data through a survey on the distribution and impact of SALW for the period 2012–2016. The goal of this survey was to contribute to achieving a comprehensive and up-to-date understanding of the challenges posed by SALW control in this country. This was also aimed at supporting the relevant institutions in implementing informed weapons control policies.

The collected data indicated several main challenges in relation to the misuse of firearms:

- → Illegal possession of firearms poses a significant risk to the safety of the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, both men and women.
- → Weapons are often used in the course of robberies and pose a general threat.
- → Firearms are the most frequent means used to commit homicide.
- → The misuse of firearms within the context of domestic violence and intimate partnership violence is widespread, while existing firearms control measures and practices do not fully address the risks associated with the misuse of weapons in this context.
- → Suicides committed with firearms account for the majority of fatalities resulting from the misuse of firearms.
- → The misuse of weapons has a pronounced gender dimension with men accounting for the majority of perpetrators of incidents involving firearms.

According to the survey data for 2016, in Bosnia and Herzegovina 290,720 (77.3%) firearms were under the possession of citizens whereas government agencies possessed 80,604 (21.4%) and legal entities possessed 4,827 (1.3%).

The number of legal firearms under the possession of government agencies, citizens and private entities increased by 20.8 per cent between 2012 and 2016, while firearms possessed by private entities increased by 58.2 per cent (26.8% for citizens and 1.9% for government agencies). In 2016, a total of 905 criminal offences involving firearms were committed.

The most frequently committed (43.9%) criminal offences involving firearms were illegal manufacture, possession, carrying and trafficking. The misuse of firearms was also common in the perpetration of the criminal offences of robbery (28.7%) or causing general threat (13.7%). Illegal possession of firearms posed a serious risk to the safety of the general public, both men and women. The vast majority of firearms related criminal offences (95.7%) involved illegal firearms. However, the range of use of illegal weapons differed significantly depending on the type of criminal offence. The misuse of legal firearms most often applied to homicide, domestic violence and burglary.

A significant rate of firearms abuses in Bosnia and Herzegovina was recorded in relation to homicide. Over the period 2012 to 2016, 139 (54.9%) of the total number of 253 registered homicides in Bosnia and Herzegovina were committed using firearms. Men accounted for 77 per cent of victims of homicides committed using firearms, while women accounted for 23 per cent of the victims.

With the exception of 2012, the number of persons who abused firearms in order to commit criminal offences remained stable. Men accounted for the vast majority of perpetrators of firearms related criminal offences (98.9%) and homicides committed using firearms (95.7%), while young men were more likely to commit homicide compared to other age groups. Homicides committed by family members account for 28.9 per cent of all homicides committed in this country over the period 2012 to 2016. Domestic violence had a significantly larger impact on women than men. Women accounted for 60.3 per cent of persons killed by a family member compared to 39.7 per cent of men. Violence committed by an intimate partner with fatal outcome affected women even more than domestic violence with women accounting for the majority of victims (88%) killed by their intimate partner. Unlike women, men were most frequently killed by another male family member.

Suicides accounted for the vast majority (82.8%) of all firearms related deaths, followed by homicides (14.3%) and accidents resulting in death (3%). A total of 43.9 per cent of all suicides involved the use of a firearm. Men were generally more likely to commit suicide than women and men were more likely to use a firearm to commit suicide. Revolvers and semi-automatic pistols were the most frequently used weapons for the deprivation of life.

According to the data collected through the Armed Violence Monitoring Platform, the total number of firearms related incidents registered for the period 2017 to 2019 was 1,305. The largest number of incidents over this three-year period was recorded in 2018, but this number decreased in 2019.

The majority of reported incidents involving the use of firearms were related to criminal incidents (theft and gangs) with 546 cases and the confiscation of weapons in 252 cases. The largest number of confiscated weapons was recorded in 2018 at 119 reported confiscations, while this number was 66 in 2017 and 67 in 2019. All types of weapons were confiscated over the period 2017 to 2019. Pistols were confiscated in 69 cases, automatic/military-grade weapons in 48 cases and rifles/shotguns in 24 cases. SALW were confiscated in 81 cases, including several types of firearms as well as ammunition. Illegally possessed weapons were seized in 224 cases.

The collected data indicates that the gender perspective plays an important role in understanding the distribution of and demand for firearms as well as the specific risks related to firearms abuse faced by women and men.

Integration of the gender perspective into the strategic and operative frameworks is increasingly recognised as a prerequisite for the efficient control of SALW. The EU Strategy Against Illicit Firearms, Small Arms and Light Weapons and Their Ammunition stresses that the integration of gender considerations into SALW control projects and actions is a guiding principle of the EU strategy and that the EU will systematically mainstream gender considerations into the design of new projects relating to the fight against gun violence and SALW control in general.

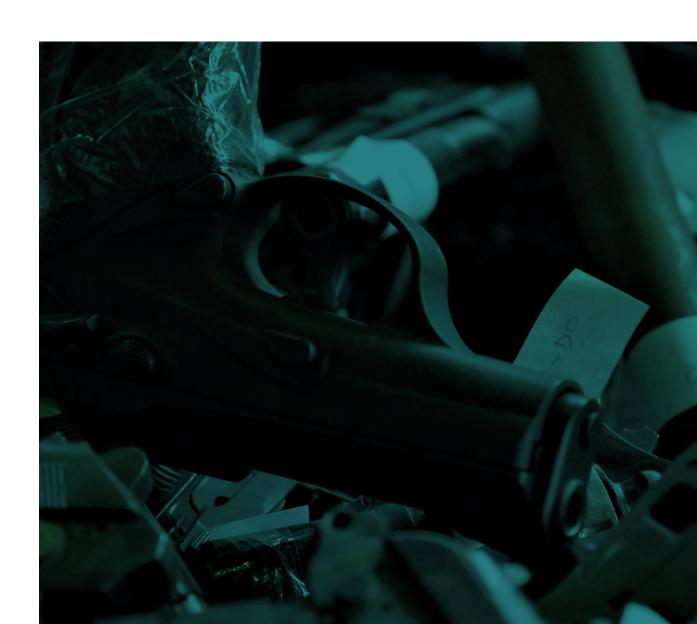
In the Final Report of the Third Review Conference on the United Nations Programme of Action, the States resolved to encourage the mainstreaming of gender considerations into all SALW control policies.

The Roadmap places specific importance on the advancement of gender equality. Accordingly, integration of the gender perspective and its implementation through action plans will be carefully monitored and evaluated as a key element for achieving a better more sustainable and more efficient result. In line with this, Bosnia and Herzegovina shall in the forthcoming period work on integrating the gender perspective into SALW control measures. Special focus will be placed on the prevention of weapons abuse in domestic violence cases, prevention of firearms abuses and strengthening the capacities of the relevant institutions to design and implement gender responsive measures and increase the participation of women in SALW control.

During the implementation period of the previous strategy, police warehouses and evidence rooms were reconstructed at the following locations: Sarajevo/Rakovica, Mostar, Orašje, Bijeljina, Zenica and Istočno Sarajevo. This significantly improved the working conditions of police officers and at the same time training was organised on the management of SALW stockpiles.

Through the support of OSCE and SEESAC, visits were organised to 29 new potential sites for the storage of SALW. A report and an analysis were compiled and 10 sites were recommended for reconstruction. Work at those sites was planned to start at the beginning of 2021.

In 2019, a feasibility assessment of the legal, procedural, organisational, infrastructural and financial capacities (K9) and the capabilities of the police agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina to detect and confiscate SALW was conducted with the support of OSCE. The subsequent Feasibility Assessment Report included findings and recommendations based on a comprehensive review of information collected during field visits to informed decision-makes on the feasibility for further action.



Over the period 2021–2024, OSCE plans to support capacity building of law enforcement K9 capabilities to detect SALW and ammunition at up to 11 sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Furthermore, this support will include development of procedures for the operation of K9 units, training and the procurement of equipment.

Over the period 2021–2024, OSCE will also support the relevant authorities in harmonising the legal framework for the deactivation of weapons and its implementation. Support will also be provided for the work of the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina and other relevant authorities in the field of SALW control in this country. Action will be taken to strengthen partnerships with civil society organisation in Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to address issues related to SALW control, SALW misuse, armed violence and the impact this has communities. Local authorities will be supported in planning, designing and implementing targeted awareness raising campaigns on SALW. All of these activities will also cover the issue of gender-based violence.

During the implementation period of the previous strategy, implementation of the UNDP Countering Illicit Arms Trafficking in Bosnia and Herzegovina (CIAT) project began. The project aimed to strengthen the capacities of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Border Police to counter the illicit trade in arms. The project consisted of four components. In the period from 2017 up until the end of 2018, the project trained 1,500 policewomen and policemen and donated equipment (endoscopes and explosives detectors) that resulted in the detection of more than ten cases of drugs and weapons.

The second phase of the project began in early January 2019 and will cover all police agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project was expected to train around 2,000 police officers by 2021, prepare an analysis of the green border and organise practical exercises on the borders of Bosnia and Herzegovina and to train 200 to 300 members of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Border Police.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has still not established a focal point(s) for firearms in line with best European practice, which was a recommendation of the analytical report that accompanied the Commission's Opinion on Bosnia and Herzegovina's application for membership of the EU. In the forthcoming period it will be necessary to work on the model for establishing the focal point(s) and on further implementation of that model. Special attention will be given to activities aimed at strengthening the forensic capacities of the police agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina and equipping the forensic laboratories.

The State and the relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina have not yet developed a methodology for the compilation of statistics on SALW in line with international standards. Development of such a methodology is one of the most important factors for the successful monitoring of trends within the domain of SALW, which is one of the prerequisites for successfully combatting the illicit trade in weapons. For that purpose, it is necessary to align bylaws on records keeping in order to ensure that data is recorded in line with international standards and disaggregated according to gender and age.

The relevant authorities have conducted activities aimed at strengthening citizen awareness on the misuse of SALW. Implementation of such activities is important as it helps combat the illicit trade in weapons, which does not only rely on repressive measures but also preventive action. A more comprehensive awareness raising campaign should be organised in the forthcoming period in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a response to the obvious increase in the number of cases of firearms abuse. The latter includes firearms related incidents, homicides, accidents, suicides, domestic violence and violence against intimate partners. In order to implement this campaign it will be necessary to organise mutual coordination between the relevant authorities in the country and international partners.

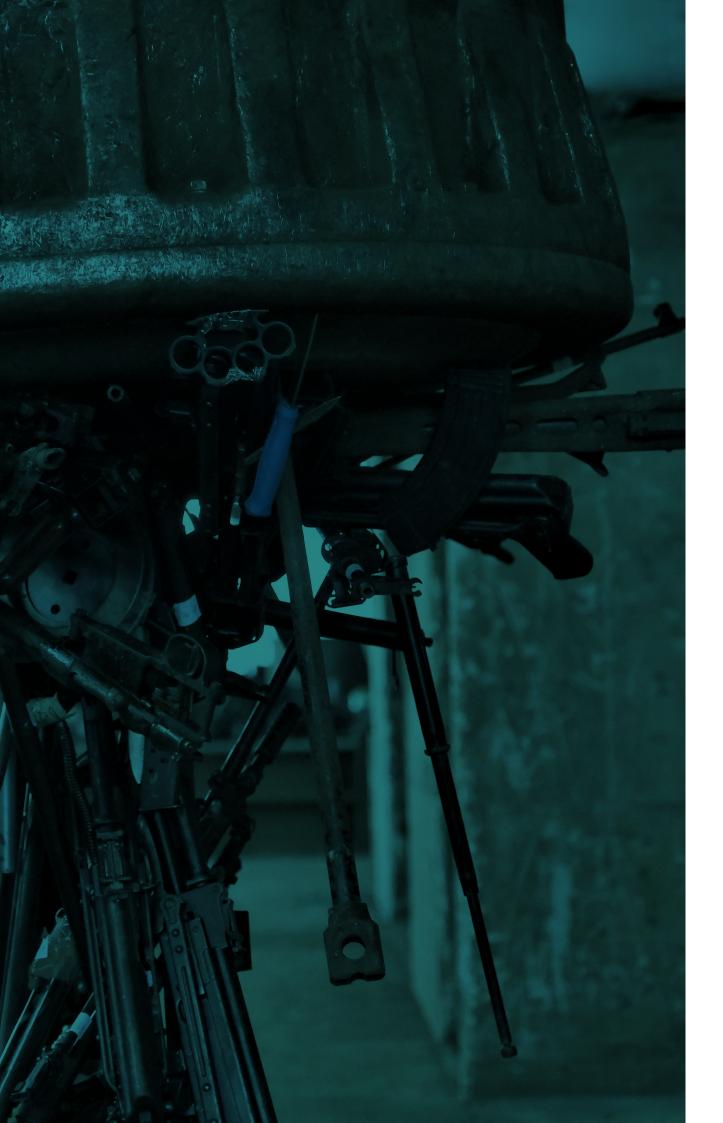
Given the rise in the number of firearms related incidents, it is necessary to further analyse the reasons for the increased use of weapons for these purposes. The survey conducted for the period 2012–2016 should act as the baseline.

The capacities for the storage of SALW owned by the police agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been improved significantly. Situational analyses were developed, including assessments on how to improve the conditions, in order to create a safe environment for the citizens. Implementation of these activities will continue over the forthcoming period in line with international standards.

Cooperation has been established with international partners with a view to strengthening the capacities of the police agencies to combat the illicit trade in weapons. However, it is necessary to continue these activities in the forthcoming period with a view to obtaining the necessary equipment for countering the illicit trade in weapons.

Over the forthcoming period, Bosnia and Herzegovina shall conduct the following activities related to this strategic goal:

- → Implement all-encompassing research into the specific impact that SALW has on citizens in this country, including its impact on women and men, in accordance with the results of the small arms and light weapons survey for the period 2012–2016.
- → Integrate the gender perspective into SALW control measures, with special focus on the prevention of weapons abuse in domestic violence cases, prevention of firearms abuse, strengthening the capacities of institutions to design and implement gender sensitive measures and efforts to increase the participation of women in SALW control.
- → Intensify activities undertaken through the Community Policing Project.
- → Develop a methodology for the compilation of statistics, including statistics disaggregated by sex and age.
- → Strengthen citizen awareness on the risks posed by SALW.
- → Collect and dispose of illicit SALW and the accompanying ammunition.
- → Improve the capacities for the storage and warehousing of SALW at police agencies.
- → Strengthen the capacities of the relevant agencies to combat illegal possession and smuggling of weapons and ammunition.
- → Establish a focal point(s) for firearms and strengthen forensic capacities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- → Strengthen the capacities of the relevant agencies to deactivate SALW.
- → Strengthen control over the business activities of those entities involved in the import and export of weapons and military equipment, including the movement of weapons and military equipment in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- → Strengthen the K9 capacities of the relevant agencies in relation to SALW and ammunition.



## Management of SALW in the possession of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Activities undertaken by the Ministry of Defence were implemented as part of the continued action to address the issue of SALW surpluses in the possession of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This included the placement of ammunition and explosive ordnance at prospective military locations, upgrading of the SALW storage sites and strengthening of the administrative capacities for SALW management.

### Continued action to address SALW surpluses in the possession of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina

In the implementation period, the Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed surplus SALW and ammunition as follows:

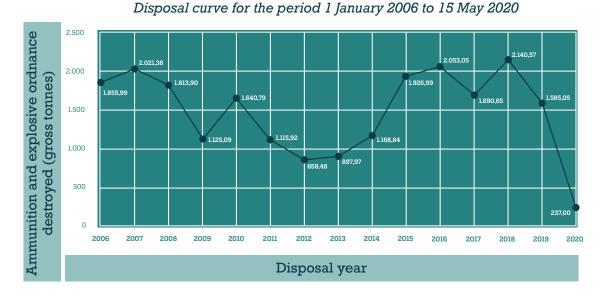
- → through sale,
- → through donation,
- → through destruction.

These activities were implemented in line with the applicable laws, relevant United Nations resolutions, OSCE documents and the international obligations of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the field of weapons control and through confidence and trust building measures.

No surplus weapons were demilitarised through sales during this period. During this period, 31.33 tonnes of ammunition were demilitarised through donation, more specifically:

- → the entity level ministries of internal affairs accounted for 30.85 tonnes of ammunition,
- → KPZ Banja Luka accounted for 0.48 tonnes.

Over the period 2016–2020, a total of 4,500 tonnes of ammunition and explosive ordnance were demilitarised.



### YEAR 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 TONNES 1,855.99 2,021.38 1,813.90 1,125.09 1,640.79 1,115.92 856.48 897.79 1,168.84 1,926.99 2,053.05 1,690.65 2,140.57 1,585.05 237.00

Graph: Disposal of ammunition and explosive ordnance (gross tonnes)

### Placement of ammunition and explosive ordnance at prospective military locations

Through a decision of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, 63 military purpose locations in the country became prospective locations for the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina: 41 in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and 22 in Republika Srpska. Over the past period, the documentation required under property law was obtained for each of these locations and a respective database and land register established.

### Upgrading of SALW storage sites

Activities to upgrade weapons and ammunition storage sites continued. Special attention was given to the finalisation of projects implemented in cooperation with UNDP and OSCE aimed at improving the security infrastructure of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina at the ammunition and weapons storage sites at 'Krupa' in Hadžići, 'Kula 1' in Mrkonjić Grad, 'TBT' in Visoko and 'Rabić' in Derventa by enhancing the storage conditions for weapons, ammunition and explosive ordnance.

Building own capacities for the demilitarisation of ammunition within the defence system was one of the main priorities during the previous period. Thus, in addition to the facility for demilitarisation of weapons, ammunition and explosive ordnance at the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina owned 'TROM' facility in Doboj the laboratory for testing propellants and ammunition was put into service with the support of OSCE. This created the conditions for the detection of instability of fuel and gunpowder in ammunition. In practice, this means that demilitarisation will be performed immediately if instability is determined based on these tests.

### Strengthening the administrative capacities for SALW management

With the support of OSCE and EUFOR, the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina established a testing facility for gunpowder load. Upgrading the 'TROM' Doboj building used for the laboratory, ensuring the necessary equipment and materials for testing of ammunition and initiating training for the personnel allowed the Armed Forces to ensure the safe storage of ammunition. A separate premises (warehouse) for keeping samples of gunpowder ammunition and premises for the training of laboratory personnel were also built.

In 2018, activities for marking SALW began with the support of the Halo Trust Foundation and EUFOR. This included training members of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina in the marking of SALW under its possession. DOT PEN technology is applied for that purpose. Halo Trust procured the equipment, which was then installed at four locations of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina: Bana Luka, Čapljina, Sarajevo and Zenica.

SALW in use and surplus or stockpiled weapons were also marked. This included a technical inspection of the weapons, deconservation and reconservation of weapons. To enable the implementation of this activity, the Ministry of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted the following internal documents whereby internal procedures for this activity were established: the Decision on marking of small arms and light weapons and the Instruction for marking small arms. The plan was to mark 61,705 pieces of arms and weapons by the end of 2020. As of 26 October 2020, a total 59,000 pieces of weapons or 95 per cent of the planned number had been marked.

The management of SALW in the possession of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina remains the focus of strengthening the capacities of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina in order create a secure environment in

this country and the region. Although significant progress has been achieved in addressing these challenges through the construction or repair of the infrastructure and the enhancement of the capacities and in minimising the risks of uncontrolled explosion or the theft of SALW, there is still room for improvement based on these achievements and for further progress.

In order to overcome the challenges related to SALW in the possession of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, this strategic document defines goals for the coming period that are in line with the Law on Defence, the decisions issued by the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina and with the policy for the disposal of surplus weapons and ammunition.

Under this strategic goal, the Ministry of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall undertake the following activities in the next implementation period:

- 1. Reduce the quantity of ammunition classified as unstable and of surplus ammunition under the possession of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina through its disposal up to the defined quantity.
- 2. Reduce the quantity of SALW through disposal up to the defined quantity (operative quantities, including the reserves of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina).
- 3. Finalise the implementation of the ammunition lifecycle management system and continue with the activities to establish a SALW lifecycle management system.
- 4. Finalise the upgrading of SALW and ammunition storage sites.
- 5. Continuously build the capacities of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the management of ammunition and SALW lifecycle management.
- 6. Reduce the number of ammunition and SALW storage sites to the number of prospective locations supported by the international community.
- 7. Ensure maintenance of the ammunition and SALW related infrastructure and equipment.
- 8. Capacitate the structures within the Ministry of Defence and Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina for the deactivation of SALW.



## International and regional cooperation and collaboration with civil society organisations

Bosnia and Herzegovina has administrative capacities in place for implementation of international and regional cooperation aimed at the prevention of illicit trafficking in SALW.

In the past, the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons and the relevant institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina have had significant cooperation with international organisations such as SEESAC, UNDP, OSCE and UNODC.

Over the past period, the European Union provided significant support for SALW control activities. This was primarily in the form of the 2016 Council Decision in support of SEESAC disarmament and arms control activities in South-East Europe aimed at reducing the threat of illicit SALW and their ammunition and the 2018 Council Decision in support of SEESAC for the Roadmap for weapons control in the Western Balkans.

The cooperation with SEESAC was reflected through support for the operations of the network of experts (operative officers) involved in matters pertaining to illegal arms trafficking (SEEFEN), meetings of the SALW commissions and regional meetings for the implementation of the Roadmap as well as through its support for the preparation and publication of regional reports on the actual import and export of weapons and military equipment.

Training on gender issues was organised for the Coordination Board. The programme 'Mentorship for Gender Equality' has been recognised as an example of good practice and presented at numerous international events. Furthermore, data containing key facts in this area was published in the document 'Gender and Small Arms in Bosnia and Herzegovina'.

Cooperation with the UNDP Office in Sarajevo was reflected through its support for the modernisation of the storage sites, implementation of campaigns and awareness raising on the risks of SALW, surplus arms and illicit SALW disposal processes.

In cooperation with EUFOR, activities were undertaken in relation to the implementation of the 'Master Plan on Ammunition' and the 'Master Plan on Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina'. The latter were agreed by all international stakeholders in this field. The Strategic Board at the level of the Ministry of Defence and the Coordination Board at the level of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina monitor the management cycle, define roles for all stakeholders in the cycles and project all ammunition and weapons surpluses.

OSCE, EUFOR and UNDP have supported the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina in improving the security infrastructure at ammunition and weapons storage sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This has resulted in a reduction in the risk of accidental explosion and contributed to the efforts of the Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina related to implementation of the Bosnia and Herzegovina SALW Control Strategy.

The OSCE project 'SAFE-UP BiH' was aimed at improving safety and security at weapons and ammunition storage sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project has contributed to the safety of the civilian population and the military personnel responsible for the maintenance of such storage sites in this country by upgrading the security infrastructure at prospective weapons and ammunition storage sites in line with internationally recognised standards.

Although planned, cooperation with civil society organisations was limited and reflected mainly through several seminars on SALW related topics. This cooperation should be intensified in the forthcoming period, especially in the context of cooperation with civil society organisations active in the field of domestic violence.

It is also necessary to encourage cooperation with organisations addressing the gender role within the context of SALW abuse. The Strategy will place special focus on these issues. Synergy with the implementation of NAP 1325<sup>7</sup> has been achieved, which is in line with global trends.

Under this strategic goal, Bosnia and Herzegovina shall implement the following activities in the forthcoming period:

→ Strengthen cooperation with regional and international organisations and specialised agencies at both the policy and operational level. This

**<sup>7</sup>** Available from <a href="https://arsbih.gov.ba/akcioni-plan-za-implementaciju-unscr-1325-u-bosni-i-hercegovini-za-period-2014-2017-godine/">https://arsbih.gov.ba/akcioni-plan-za-implementaciju-unscr-1325-u-bosni-i-hercegovini-za-period-2014-2017-godine/</a>.

- will contribute towards the implementation of regional and international weapons control obligations and frameworks, including the Roadmap.
- → Exchange SALW related information in accordance with international weapons control obligations.
- → Strengthen cooperation with the European Union agencies at both the strategic and operational level and in particular with EUROPOL and Frontex. Intensify the level of participation of the relevant police agencies in the work of EMPACT.8
- → In accordance with its international obligations, Bosnia and Herzegovina shall continue with the positive practice of weapons and military equipment reporting. This will apply to various fields of weapons control, including the ATT, UN PoA, the Roadmap and the Regional Report on Arms Exports.
- → Continue with the practice of regular exchange of information on all aspects of SALW control issues, both on a bilateral and multilateral level.
- → Strengthen cooperation with civil society organisations.

#### **MONITORING**

Having in mind the scope, importance and complexity of SALW control, the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina issued the Decision setting up the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Members of the Coordination Board are representatives of the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Prosecutor's Office of Bosnia and Herzegovina , Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ministry of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Border Police of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the State Investigation and Protection Agency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Directorate for Coordination of Police Agencies of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Indirect Taxation Authority, the police of Brčko District and the Federal Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Interior of Republika Srpska.

The Coordination Board is mandated to monitor the implementation of the Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Strategy and the Action Plan, coordinate and initiate activities with the relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and to draft revised strategy and action plans. The Coordination Board reports annually to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the implementation of the goals defined by the Strategy and the Action Plan.

The Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina provides administrative support and assistance to the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Progress made in the implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan will be evaluated based on key performance indicators that are in line with the Roadmap for the Western Balkans and narrative reports based on the strategic goals. Progress reports will be submitted to the Coordination Board at least twice a year.

#### CONCLUSION

The Small Arms and Light Weapons Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina for 2021–2024 and its accompanying Action Plan represent a framework of priority goals and activities in the field of SALW control in Bosnia and Herzegovina. They are aligned with the priorities set out in the EU Strategy Against Illicit Firearms, Small Arms and Light Weapons and Their Ammunition and with other relevant international documents in this field.

Furthermore, the Strategy has been formulated in line with the main goals of the SALW Control Roadmap that was adopted by the governments of the Western Balkans, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, as a means of achieving a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking in SALW and their ammunition by 2024.

Successful implementation of the goals defined in the Strategy and its Action Plan will require significant funds. These funds need to be planned in due time and in accordance with the applicable budgeting methodologies, including earmarking the sources of funds and allocating those funds to the relevant institutions responsible for the implementation of the set goals and activities.

### **ABBREVIATIONS**

ATT	Arms Trade Treaty
UN PoA	Plan of Action
UN ITI	International Tracing Instrument
SEEFEN	South East Europe Firearms Expert Network
SEEFEG	South Eastern Europe Firearms Expert Group
RACVIAC	Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre
RCC	Regional Cooperation Centre
WASEENAAR Arrangement	The first global multilateral arrangement on export controls for conventional arms and sensitive goods and dual-use technologies
EMPACT	European Multidisciplinary Platform against Criminal Threat



## Introduction

The Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in cooperation with the relevant authorities at the state, entity, canton and the Brčko District of BiH (hereinafter, Brčko District) level, has drafted the Action Plan to support the Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period 2021–2024, including the goals and specific indicators against which progress made in this country shall be measured.

The Action Plan mainly covers the goals set out in the Roadmap for a Sustainable Solution to the Illegal Possession, Misuse and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons and their Ammunition in the Western Balkans, adopted at the London Summit held in July 2018 under the Berlin Process.

The Action Plan defines four strategic goals that are sub-divided into specific activities to be implemented in the period 2021–2024, more specifically:

- 1. Improvement/harmonisation of the legal framework and implementation of the small arms and light weapons legislation.
- 2. Reduced misuse, illegal possession and trafficking of firearms and ammunition.
- 3. Management of small arms and light weapons in the possession of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- 4. International and regional cooperation and collaboration with civil society organisations.

In this Action Plan, the relevant authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina designated as holders of activities will monitor the implementation of the set goals, which will be conducted by the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It is expected that the implementation of the Action Plan will be supported through the funds of the international institutions and organisations active in this area such as, among others, the European Union (hereinafter, EU), UNDP, SEESAC, OSCE and UNODC.

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#### GOAL 1. IMPROVED/HARMONISED LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS LEGISLATION

1.1 Develop an all-encompassing situational analysis that covers the harmonisation of the relevant legislation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter, BiH) with that of the European and international legal frameworks in the field of small arms and light weapons (hereinafter, SALW) control and continue the harmonisation of the legislative and administrative frameworks up until their full implementation.

Target	Baseline	Activity	Responsible authority/ stakeholder/organisational unit for implementation	Indicator	Sources of Funding	Timeframe
1.1.1 Align the bylaws regulating firearms, ammunition and military equipment. This should include laws regulating legal possession, deactivation, storage, manufacture, retail sale, trade, transit, import/export, training, marking, nonconvertible weapons, tracking, records keeping and monitoring as well as the criminal legislation, which should be aligned with the UN, OSCE and EU legislative frameworks. Keep abreast of any future amendments to regulations in this field.	Laws and bylaws are not aligned with the European legal framework.  A situational analysis has been drafted.	Set up a working group to draft amendments to the criminal and criminal procedure laws (at four levels: state, the entities and Brčko District).	Coordinated by the Coordination Board for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Bosnia and Herzegovina (hereinafter, SALW Coordination Board).  Holders: Ministry of Interior of Republika Srpska (hereinafter, RS), the cantonal ministries of interior, the police of Brčko District, the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations in BiH (hereinafter, MOFTER BiH), Ministry of Defence of BiH, the Directorate for European Integration of BiH (DEI), the Government of Brčko District, the ministries of justice at all four levels: state, the entities and Brčko District.	Working groups set up, the situational analysis drafted and laws passed.	Donors/ regular budget funds.	In line with the SAA (June 2021), but to be monitored continuously. On a continuous basis.
<b>1.1.2</b> Align criminal laws and criminal procedure laws in BiH at all four levels and with the UN Firearms Protocol.	Criminal laws and criminal procedure laws are not aligned with the UN Firearms Protocol.  GAP analysis drafted.	Set up a working group to draft amendments to the criminal laws and criminal procedure laws at the state, entity and Brčko District level.	Holders: the ministries of justice at the state, entity and Brčko District level and the MOFTER BiH.	Working groups set up, the situational analysis drafted and laws passed.	Donors/ regular budget funds.	In line with the SAA (June 2021), to be monitored continuously.

<b>1.1.3</b> Evaluation of the Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Strategy and the accompanying Action Plan.	The Strategy and the Action Plan are adopted.	Adopt the Strategy and Action Plan.	Holders: SALW Coordination Board in cooperation with the relevant authorities at the state, entity, cantonal and Brčko District level, international partners and the non-governmental sector.	Tracing, evaluation and reporting mechanisms developed in line with MOSAIC 04.40. Semi-annual reports, the Evaluation Report on Implementation of the 2021-2024 Action Plan and the Strategy drafted.	Donors/ regular budget funds.	2024
1.2 Strengthen own capacities to o	combat the illegal posses	ssion of and the trade in SA	LW and their ammunition			
<b>1.2.1</b> Analyse the capacities of the relevant institutions in BiH to combat the illegal possession of and the trade in SALW and their ammunition.	The existing capacities are insufficient.	Identify the institutions involved in combating the illegal possession of and the trade in SALW and their ammunition.  Analyse the capacities of the identified institutions and their need for strengthening.	Holders: Ministry of Security of BiH, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH, the Directorate for Coordination of Police Agencies, MOFTER BiH, UINO, the Border Police of BiH, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the RS Ministry of Interior, the Police of Brčko District, SIPA, OSA BiH and the cantonal ministries of interior.	Analysis, including recommendations for strengthening the capacities, drafted.  The report on the number of capacity strengthening events drafted.	Regular budget funds/ donor funds.	2024
<b>1.2.2</b> Organise events to strengthen capacities aimed at gaining a better understanding of the specific nature of investigations and prosecutions in this area.	The existing capacities are insufficient.	Organise at least two workshops on specific topics in line with the analysis.	Holders: High Judicial Prosecutorial Council (hereinafter, HJPC), the Federal Ministry of Interior, the RS Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District, SIPA, OSA BiH and the cantonal ministries of interior.	Events organised.	Budgets of the relevant authorities in BiH/donor funds.	2024
1.2.3 Procurement of appropriate equipment needed for the more efficient combatting of the illicit trafficking of arms (booster devices, endoscopes, various types of sensors, etc.) in line with the analysis.	The necessary equipment was procured through several projects (CIAT1 and CIAT2) and its usage attained good results.  Continue with the procurement of additional necessary equipment.	Prepare an analysis of the required equipment.  Procure the equipment in line with the analysis.  Organise training on the use of the equipment.	Holders: UINO, the Border Police of BiH, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the RS Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District, SIPA, OSA and the cantonal ministries of interior.	Equipment procured and training sessions on the use of this equipment organised.	Budgets of the relevant authorities in BiH/donor funds.	On a continuous basis.

<b>1.2.4</b> Define the general principles for the marking of arms intended for deactivation and improve tracing of seized and confiscated weapons in line with EU standards.	The Law on Marking of Small Arms, Light Weapons and Their Ammunition and relevant laws at the state, entity, cantonal and Brčko District level.	Harmonise the competencies of the different levels of government.	Holder: MOFTER BiH in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Interior, the RS Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District and the cantonal ministries of interior.	Work group established.  Analysis drafted.  Laws harmonised.	Budgets of the relevant authorities in BiH /donor funds / TAIEX programme.	June 2021
1.3 Upgrading the information sys	stems for the control of SA	ALW				
<b>1.3.1</b> Equip the forensic laboratories in BiH and ensure training for staff on the use of the equipment.	An agreement on establishing the EVOFINDER system in BiH and a Memorandum of Understanding on establishing the EVOFINDER ballistic identification system in BiH signed.	Install the system, organise training and then commence with the examinations.  Open case dossier: establishment and training.  Implementation of ISO 17025: Preliminary revision, support and accreditation.  Establish internal cooperation in the field of forensic laboratories.	Holders: Agency for Forensic Testing and Examinations of BiH, the RS Ministry of Interior, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District and the cantonal ministries of interior.	The required equipment procured.	BiH Budget / donor funds.	2021
<b>1.3.2</b> Development of a software solution for the control of the movement of weapons and military equipment.	Electronic record of the movement of weapons and military equipment.	Develop the required software solution for tracking the movement of weapons and military equipment.  Assess the need for hardware and network.  Install the software.  Organise the required training.	Holders: Ministry of Security of BiH and MOFTER BiH. Beneficiaries: the RS Ministry of Interior, the cantonal ministries of interior and the police of Brčko District.	Registers established.	BiH Budget / donor funds.	2021

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fo in a	<b>3.3</b> Develop a software solution or issuing permits for foreign trade weapons and military equipment and upgrade the database on issued ermits.	The existing solutions (Tracker and AAERG software) are partly in function but do not meet the needs for which they were designed and procured.	Develop the software solution in line with the needs defined by MOFTER BiH, install the system and organise the required training.	Holders: MOFTER BiH, Ministry of Security of BiH, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH, Ministry of Defence of BiH, UNIO BiH and OSA/OBA.	Software developed and the database established.	BiH Budget / donor funds.	2021
G	OAL 2. REDUCED PRESENCE OF	F ILLICIT SALW					
2	.1 Implement all-encompassing	research into the specific	c impact of SALW				
th b	1.1 Improve the tracing system for the collection of data, disaggregated by sex and age, on the distribution and impact of firearms and ammunition.	Data is not collected in line with international standards and does not use a single form. Laws on weapons prescribe records but often they do not include all of the required data.	Analyse the gaps in records keeping.  Draft a standardised form for the collection of data, disaggregated by sex and age, for all security agencies.  Amend the existing legislation on keeping records and add the required data.  Organise training sessions on the collection and exchange of data.  Collect data on firearms on a daily basis and periodically draw data from the system for the purpose of analysis.	Holders: the RS Ministry of Interior, the cantonal ministries of interior and the police of Brčko District.	Methodology drafted.  Data collected in line with the adopted methodology.  Single/standardised form for the collection of statistics developed.	Donors	2021



2.2 Integrate the gender perspect	2.2 Integrate the gender perspective into SALW control measures									
2.2.1 Increase the level of participation of women in SALW control.	The SALW Coordination Board does define a certain number of female members.  Gender equality bodies, women's organisations and experts are not sufficiently involved in the development and implementation of firearms control measures.  Steps have been taken towards linking the Firearms Control Action Plan and UNSCR 1325.	Organise meetings for information and experience exchange between the gender equality bodies, the Coordination Board for AP UNSCR 1325, women's organisations and the SALW Coordination Board.  Organise a workshop on the gender aspects of firearms control for women's organisations and organisations working on the promotion of gender equality.	Holders: institutions at the state, entity, cantonal and Brčko District level and the SALW Coordination Board.  Cooperation: non-governmental associations and the Agency for Gender Equality.	Meetings between gender institutional mechanisms, the Coordination Board for AP UNSCR 1325 and the SALW Coordination Board held.  A workshop on firearms control organised for civil society organisations.	Donors	On a continous basis				
2.2.2 Strengthen the capacities of the institutions responsible for SALW/firearms control on integrating the gender perspective and the development of gender sensitive policies on SALW.	The capacities of the institutions responsible for SALW control to integrate the gender perspective are limited.	Organise training on the gender aspects of SALW for members of the SALW Coordination Board and other institutions responsible for their implementation of SALW control policies.  Conduct a gender analysis of the legislation and the strategic frameworks for SALW control and develop recommendations for its improvement.	Holders: the SALW Coordination Board, institutions, ministries and agencies at the state, entity, cantonal and Brčko District level.	The capacities of the institutions upgraded to a higher level.	Donors	On a continous basis				

2.2.3 Improve the institutional and strategic response to the misuse of firearms within the context of domestic violence and intimate partnership violence.	There is widespread use of firearms within the context of domestic violence.  Strategies to combat domestic violence exist in the entities (RS and FBiH).  Laws on firearms only recognise the risks of firearms abuse within the context of domestic violence to a limited extent.	Analyse the institutional practices and actions taken by the relevant authorities to prevent abuse of firearms within the context of domestic violence and intimate partnership violence.  Organise training on gender-based violence for staff working on the issuance of approvals for the purchase of weapons.  Develop operative procedures for police officers on how to handle firearms in cases of domestic and organise relevant training sessions for police officers (including the operative centres and first responders).	Holders: SALW Coordination Board, agencies at the state, entity, cantonal and Brčko District level.	An analysis of institutional practices conducted.  Training organised.  Training/procedure developed.  Awareness raising activities related to combating firearms abuse within the context of domestic violence conducted.  Operative procedures for police officers developed.	Donors	On a continous basis
2.3 Intensify activities undertaken	through the Community	Policing Project and streng	gthen citizen awareness on the r	risks of SALW		,
2.3.1 Increase awareness and improve the level of understanding among civil society organisations with regard to the abuse of and the illegal possession of firearms.	Civil society is insufficiently informed about the issue of SALW control.	Organise periodic workshops with civil society, including women's organisations and organisations working on the promotion of gender equality as well as the media.	Holders: SALW Coordination Board, the Border Police of BiH, the cantonal ministries of interior, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District and the RS Ministry of Interior.	Increased awareness among civil society on the risk of SALW abuse.	Donors	On a continous basis
<b>2.3.2</b> Improve cooperation with the media in order to ensure adequate reporting on firearms abuse and firearms related violence.	The exchange of information on SALW is unsatisfactory.	Organise workshops and press conferences with the media.	Holders: SALW Coordination Board and the police agencies in BiH.	Workshops organised.	Donors	On a continous basis

# 2.3.3 Increase awareness in the target group and men and women in general about the dangers posed by the abuse, illegal possession and trade in firearms and ammunition.

## ACTION PLAN FOR THE SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS **CONTROL STRATEGY IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

tracking.

2.4 Develop a methodology for the compilation of statis

2.4.1 Track data (track record) starting

from the reports on criminal offences

committed using firearms up to final

sentencing.

	Citizens are not sufficiently aware of the threats associated with SALW.  According to survey indicators, the majority of cases of SALW abuse involve young men aged 15-34.  There is widespread abuse of firearms within the context of domestic violence.  A large number of suicides involve the use of a firearm.	Conduct awareness raising activities targeting at men and in particular young men on the dangers associated with the abuse of firearms, ammunition and explosives.  Organise a roundtable involving representatives of the relevant institutions and civil society organisations in order to discuss how gender roles and norms can encourage risky behaviour and the demand for firearms among men.  Conduct awareness raising activities related to the importance of preventing and combatting firearms abuse within the context of domestic violence and intimate partnership relationships.  Conduct a thorough analysis of suicides committed with firearms and inform the relevant institutions and the general public about the findings.	Holders: SALW Coordination Board, the cantonal ministries of interior, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the RS Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District and the Agency for Gender Equality.	Increased awareness among Citizens.  Awareness raising activities targeting men conducted.  Roundtable organised.  Analysis conducted.	Donors	On a continous basis
1	e compilation of statistics	s, including statistics disag	gregated according to sex and a	age		
	Data is collected but only partially and randomly.	Prepare a feasibility study on how to improve data tracking (track record).  Develop a policy to integrate data tracking, criminal system tracking and evaluation.  Install software and hardware solutions for data	Holder: HJPC in cooperation with the RS Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District, the cantonal ministries of interior, the Federal Ministry of Interior, SIPA and the prosecutors' offices in BiH.	Form developed.  Reports under preparation.	Donors	2024



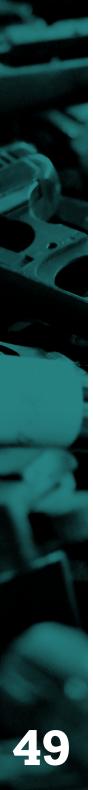
2.5 Collect and dispose of illicit Sa	2.5 Collect and dispose of illicit SALW and the accompanying ammunition								
2.5.1 Reduce the number of illegal firearms periodically through legalisation and amnesties for the voluntary surrender of firearms and ammunition.	Legalisation and amnesty actions are conducted periodically.	Introduce the necessary amendments to the laws in order to allow for the legalisation of SALW/ firearms and the voluntary surrender of firearms, ammunition and explosives.  Implement legalisation and/or voluntary surrender campaigns/events.  Develop an institutional approach towards the implementation of laws and voluntary surrender.	Holders: the RS Ministry of Interior, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the cantonal ministries of Interior and the police of Brčko District.  Cooperation: SALW Coordination Board and international organisations.	The legalisation of weapons and amnesty prescribed by law.  Campaigns conducted.	Donors/ regular budget funds.	On a continous basis			
<b>2.5.2</b> Systematically and publicly destroy quantities of confiscated firearms.	Disposal activities are conducted periodically.	Draft an operational plan for disposal events, including information kits for the media.  Conduct periodic and public disposal of confiscated firearms at approved disposal sites.  Prepare an environmental assessment of the sites to be used for disposal.	Holders: SALW Coordination Board, the RS Ministry of Interior, the cantonal ministries of interior, the police of Brčko District, the courts and prosecutor's offices, SIPA, the Federal Ministry of Interior and the Border Police of BiH.	Increased number of activities for the disposal of confiscated weapons.	Donors/ regular budget funds.	On a continous basis			



2.6 Improve the capacities for the	storage and warehousin	g of SALW at the police ag	encies			
2.6.1 Ensure that the SALW/firearms and ammunition storage sites are secure and safe in line with international standards.	Conditions at some facilities are not satisfactory and constitute a threat to security.  The situational analysis for the storage sites has been drafted.	Improve the security and safety of the storage infrastructure based on the IATG checklist for armed forces, law enforcement agencies and licensed legal entities.  Rehabilitate the existing storage capacities for SALW.  Improve the infrastructure through the reconstruction of storage facilities, video surveillance, fire protection, etc. at the four storage sites for ammunition and explosive ordnance.  Improve the rooms for keeping evidence.  Revise the evidence	Holders: the cantonal ministries of interior, the RS Ministry of Interior, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District, SIPA and the Border Police of BiH.	Improved safety of the storage capacities.  Increased number of upgraded storage facilities.	Donors	On a continous basis
2.7 Strengthen the capacities of th	e relevant agencies to c	safekeeping chain.	d smuggling of weapons and a	mmunition		
2.71 Enhance the capacities for data collection and analysis with a view to improving the detection, identification and investigation of firearms and ammunition.	The analytical capacities are insufficient.	Organise ANACapa training (analytical skills for analysts, including fore sighting).  Organise training on how to prepare an analysis of criminal offences committed with the use of firearms.  Organise training on risk and threat assessment in line with the EUROPOL SOCTA methodology.  Organise training for analytical units of the police agencies on the analysis of gender aspects of firearms abuse.	Holders: the RS Ministry of Interior, the cantonal ministries of interior, the police of Brčko District, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the Border Police of BiH, SIPA, the Directorate for Coordination of Police Agencies in BiH and the prosecutor's offices in BiH.	Trainings for analytical units organised.  Analyses on firearms drafted.	Donors	2023



2.7.2 Improve cooperation between the police agencies in BiH and the judicial authorities in relation to investigation, prosecution and sentencing for criminal offences involving firearms.  Improve the work of the prosecutors. In cooperation with the courts, prepare a compilation of adjudicated cases.	There is a continuous need for training.	Intensify the training of police officers, judges and prosecutors through the centres for education.  Improve the work of prosecutors, judges and police officers with respect to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and the Firearms Protocol.  Under the auspices of the HJPC, develop relevant databases on criminal offences involving firearms. Intensify training on cooperation between prosecutors and the police agencies in relation to the investigation and prosecution of firearms related criminal offences.  Organise training on integrated financial investigation in relation to serious and organised crime cases.	Holders: HJPC and the judicial and prosecutorial training centres.  UNODC will continue training for prosecutors on data collection as well as training for judges and the police agencies.	Training on specific topics conducted.  UNODC has prepared and distributed the compilation of adjudicated cases related to arms trafficking.	BiH budget / donors.	On a continous basis
2.7.3 Enhance the capacities for detection, identification and investigation with a view to preventing the illicit trade in weapons and ammunition.	Police officer lack sufficient knowledge on the types of weapons as well as the necessary equipment, which directly affects the result of criminal investigations.	Draft and implement procedures for the detection, analysis, identification and investigation of firearms and ammunition.  Organise training for law enforcement agencies, including introductory and advanced course on the detection and investigation of firearms and ammunition.  Procure the relevant equipment, based on a needs assessment.	Holders: the RS Ministry of Interior, SIPA, the Border Police of BiH, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the cantonal ministries of interior, the police of Brčko District and UINO.	Improved knowledge among police officers on the different types of weapons.	Donors	On a continous basis



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2.7.4 Build the capacities of the police agencies in BiH by strengthening their K9 capabilities to detect weapons and explosives.	The police agencies are insufficiently equipped and trained.	Assess the need to improve the existing capabilities of the police agencies in BiH in relation to the implementation of laws for K9.  Draft a master plan for improvement of K9 capabilities optimised for the operational requirements of the police.  On the basis of an assessment of the capacities and the master plan, procure the necessary equipment (i.e., specialised vehicles, necessary assistance related to the reconstruction/ construction of the necessary veterinary infrastructure, etc.).  Monitoring, evaluation and reporting: Monitor and evaluate the impact and outcomes of the activities.	Holders: the cantonal ministries of interior, the RS Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District, the Federal Ministry of Interior, SIPA and the Border Police of BiH.	Situational analysis drafted.  Master plan drafted.  Equipment procured.	Donors	2020 2021 2022
2.8 Establish a focal point(s) for fir	rearms					
2.8.1 Ensure the establishment of a focal point(s) for firearms.	BiH should establish a focal point(s) for firearms.	Establish a working group.  Sign memorandums of understanding in the field of exchange of information on weapons between all of the relevant authorities in BiH and with regional partners as well as on the functioning of a focal point(s) for firearms.  Pass a decision on the establishment of a focal point(s) for firearms and ensure the legal bases for information exchange.	Holders: the RS Ministry of Interior, the cantonal ministries of interior, the police of Brčko District, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the Border Police of BiH, SIPA, the Directorate for the Coordination of Police Agencies, the prosecutors' offices in BiH and ITA.	Firearms focal point(s) established.	Donors	2022

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2.8.2 Enhance the capacities of the focal point(s) for firearms to provide support in preventing, mitigating, responding to and combating the misuse, illicit trade in and the uncontrolled proliferation of firearms.  2.9 Strengthen control over the but	Focal point(s) not established.	Organise human resources training for the focal point(s) for firearms.  Organise training for the focal point(s) for firearms on the gender aspects of firearms abuse and the illicit trade in and uncontrolled proliferation of firearms.  Conduct a needs assessment for the focal point(s) for firearms.  Implement software and hardware solutions.	Holders: the RS Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the Directorate for Coordination of Police Agencies, and SIPA.	Personnel licensed.	Donors	2022
2.9.1 Enhance the capacities for control over the export of weapons, including risk assessment, the issuance of permits, delivery and certificates of delivery.	Assessment risk is conducted but requires continuous improvement because of the constant challenges.	Improve training on risk assessment, the issuance of permits and certificates to end users for officers included in the licensing process.  Conduct a risk assessment for each item.  Confirm delivery and develop methods and organise training on risk assessment in relation to the abuse of exported weapons within the context of gender-based violence.  Draft analyses and organise training on the security risks related to weapons transport/transit and export/import procedures.	Holders: MOFTER BiH, Ministry of Security of BiH, Ministry of Defense of BiH, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH, the commissions of the Council of Ministers of BiH, ITA, the RS Ministry of Interior, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the cantonal ministries of interior and the police of Brčko District.	An improved assessment risk process.  The methodology drafted and training organised on risk assessment in relation to the abuse of exported weapons within the context of gender-based violence.	Budgets of the relevant authorities in BiH/donors.	On a continous basis

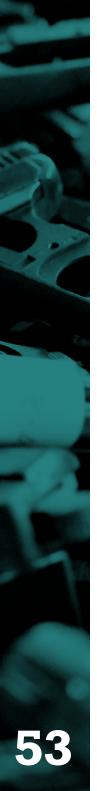
	Ensure transparency in the confidence of weapons.	Reports are submitted in line with the national legislation and the international obligations of BiH.	Draft reports.  Identify and develop the tools required for increased transparency in the export of weapons.  Exchange information between the relevant authorities.	Holders: MOFTER BiH, ITA, the Ministry of Security of BiH, Ministry of Defense of BiH and OSA BiH.	Reports submitted.	BiH budget / donors.	On a continous basis
firearn	Increase awareness among ns manufacturers about the risk recting through illicit flows.	Competencies are divided between the state, the entities, the cantons and Brčko District.	Increase inspections of and make direct contact with registered companies with a view to organising training on the prevention of redirection.	Holders: MOFTER BiH, the relevant companies, the RS Ministry of Interior, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the cantonal ministries of interior and the police of Brčko District.	The Operative plan for inspection and working and holding of consultative meetings drafted.	Budget funds/ donors.	On a continous basis
			Hire relevant experts to conduct the training.				
GOAI	3. MANAGEMENT OF SALV	W in the possession of the	e Armed Forces of BiH				
3.1	Reduce the quantities of ammunition classified as unstable and surplus ammunition under the possession of the Armed Forces of BiH through disposal up to the defined quantity (7,500 t).	W in the possession of the Current status of the unstable ammunition possessed by the Armed Forces of BiH.	Conduct regular control and disposal measures.	The Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of BiH	Account balance of the quantities of ammunition.	Ministry of Defence and partly through donors.	End of 2024
	Reduce the quantities of ammunition classified as unstable and surplus ammunition under the possession of the Armed Forces of BiH through disposal up to the defined	Current status of the unstable ammunition possessed by the Armed	Conduct regular control and	1		Defence and partly through	End of 2024 2024

3.4	Finalise the upgrading of the SALW and ammunition infrastructure and storage sites.	Decisions of the Presidency of BiH, the defence review and AWE.	Reconstruction and rehabilitation of facilities in line with international standards.	Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of BiH.	Economic, safety and financial aspects.	Ministry of Defence / donors.	2021
3.5	Continuously build the capacities of the Armed Forces of BiH in terms of management of the ammunition and SALW lifecycle.	Defence review AWE MP.	Each aspect of ammunition and explosive ordnance control under the supervision and control of the Armed Forces of BiH (purchase, storage, handling, disposal, records keeping and reporting).	Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of BiH.	Records keeping and reporting.	Ministry of Defence / donors.	2024
3.6	Ensure the placement of ammunition and SALW at the prospective storage sites.	Decisions of the Presidency of BiH, the Reform Programme AWE MP.	Dislocation of items.	Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of BiH.	Economic, safety and financial aspects.	Ministry of Defence / donors.	2024
3.7	Establish an adequate maintenance system for the infrastructure and equipment at SALW and ammunition storage locations.	Budget request of the Ministry of Defence of BiH, the plan of needs and the plan on procurement.	Checking warranty period, attestation.	Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of BiH.	Technical documentation and warranty card.	Ministry of Defence / donors.	2024
3.8	Train staff of the Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of BiH in the deactivation of SALW.	Budget request of the Ministry of Defence of BiH. Plan of needs.	Training the relevant staff.	Ministry of Defence and the Armed Forces of BiH.	Existing knowledge improved and new competencies acquired.	Ministry of Defence / donors.	2024

### GOAL 4. INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

4.1 Bosnia and Herzegovina will endeavour to carry out the following activities:

- strengthen cooperation with regional and international organisations and specialised agencies at both the policy and operational level in order to contribute towards the implementation of regional and international weapons control obligations and frameworks, including the Roadmap.
- → Exchange SALW related information in line with international weapons control obligations.
- → Strengthen cooperation with the European Union agencies, both at the strategic and operational level, and in particular with EUROPOL and Frontex. Intensify the level of participation of the relevant police agencies in the work of EMPACT.
- > In accordance with its regional and international obligations, BiH shall continue with the positive practice of weapons and military equipment reporting in various fields of weapons control, including the ATT, UN PoA, the Roadmap and through the Regional Report on Arms Exports.
- → BiH shall continue with the practice of regular exchange of information on SALW control issues in all aspects, both at the bilateral and multilateral level.



<b>4.1.1</b> Enhance regional and international operative cooperation in the field of combating the illicit trade in firearms.	There is a certain level of regional and international cooperation that should be further enhanced.	Participate in and contribute towards operations led by Interpol, EUROPOL, EMPACT and SELEC.  Organise and participate in specialised training for prosecutors and investigators (the use of TAIEX and CEPOL, including CEPOL exchange programmes for officials).	Holders: the RS Ministry of Interior, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the cantonal ministries of interior, the police of Brčko District, the Directorate for Coordination of Police Agencies, SIPA, ITA and the Border Police of BiH.	Increased exchange of information and operative actions in cooperation with EUROPOL, EMPACT, Interpol and SELEC.  Participation in specialised training.	Budgets of the relevant authorities in BiH/donors	On a continous basis
4.1.2 Strengthen cooperation with regional and international organisations in relation to SALW control.	Continuous cooperation with regional and international organisations is required.	Participate in workshops and seminars on SALW.  Contribute regularly to regional processes and mechanisms, such as the meetings of SALW commissions, donor coordination meetings and activities organised by regional organisations (RACVIAC, SEESAC, RIEP, EUP2P).  Implement and report on regional and international agreements.	Holder: SALW Coordination Board in cooperation with the Ministry of Security of BiH, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH, MOFTER BiH, Ministry of Defence of BiH, the entities, cantons, Brčko District and ITA.	Active participation in and contribution to regional processes, platforms and meetings.	Budgets of the relevant authorities in BiH/donors.	On a continous basis
<b>4.1.3</b> Promote the SALW Control Strategy within the non-governmental sector and promote cooperation with the non-governmental sector and with civil society organisations.	The non-governmental sector should be better informed about issues related to SALW.	Organise meetings, roundtables, etc.	Holder: SALW Coordination Board.	Outreach events organised.	Budgets of the relevant authorities in BiH/donors	On a continous basis
<b>4.1.4</b> Maintain regular contact and exchange information with the relevant institutions in the countries of the region (SEEFEN and the SEEFEG network).	BiH participates in the work of SEEFEN and the SEFFEG network	Continue participation in the SEEFEN and the SEFFEG network.	Holders: Prosecutor's Office of BiH, the Border Police of BiH, the Federal Ministry of Interior, the RS Ministry of Interior, the police of Brčko District, SIPA, OSA BiH and ITA BiH.	The report on information exchange drafted.	Budgets of the relevant authorities in BiH/donor funds.	On a continous basis