

The UK remains committed to full implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action (UNPoA) to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in All its Aspects.

## **THE CONFLICT PREVENTION POOL'S SECURITY AND SMALL ARMS CONTROL STRATEGY**

The **UK Conflict Prevention Pool's (CPP) Security and Small Arms Control Strategy (SSAC)** contributes to wider UK support to conflict prevention by addressing the long-term structural causes of conflict, managing regional and national tension and violence, and supporting post-conflict reconstruction. The strategy is jointly managed by the **Foreign & Commonwealth Office (FCO)**, **Ministry of Defence (MoD)** and **Department for International Development (DfID)**.

## **OUR MISSION**

The mission statement for the SSAC programme is:

***To invest in and build the capacity of the UK, partner governments' and international actors' capabilities in Security Sector Reform and Small Arms Control, in order to support coherent and effective international efforts to prevent, manage and resolve conflict and build peace.***

The SSAC programme works to engage key bilateral and multilateral partners, to develop their capacity to engage in SSAC activities both at a policy and a programmatic level. We support efforts in the diplomatic, defence and development arenas.

## **OUR OBJECTIVES**

The strategy has the following objectives directly related to SALW work:

**International Influencing:** To promote an effective international approach to SALW control and to Security Sector Reform (SSR) programming in environments prone to conflict and insecurity.

**Mainstreaming:** To support the integration of SALW and SSR initiatives into wider UK Government programmes and policies, primarily within the thematic and regional strategies of the CPP.

**Capacity Building:** To enhance the understanding, capacity and political will of partner governments and other relevant stakeholders to exercise effective control over SALW and to engage in sustainable SSR, and with other relevant stakeholders in supporting these efforts.

## **WHAT HAVE WE DONE SO FAR?**

The UK has provided over £31 million since 2001 in support of measures to reduce the supply of, demand for and availability of SALW. Between April 2007 and March 2008, the UK has contributed funding to over 20 projects, at a cost of £3.25 million, in Eastern Europe, Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa. These projects have included:

- Continuing support for the implementation of a National Action Plan (NAP) in Namibia and the development of NAPs in Rwanda and Burundi.
- Continuing support for the Nairobi-based Regional Centre on Small Arms (RECSA), which helps countries in Central and Eastern Africa strengthen their controls on small arms;

- Support for the **Small Arms Survey (SAS)**, which published its authoritative 2007 yearbook in August;
- Support for a seminar in Buenos Aires on possible regional transfer control agreements in Latin America
- Support for a series of assessments by **Saferworld** of current legislation regarding transfer controls
- Supporting **IANSA's** global outreach strategy for small arms reduction;
- Funding for SALW collection and destruction in Guinea-Bissau.

## **WHAT ARE WE AIMING TO DO IN THE FUTURE?**

**To better align and allocate SSAC-funded resources, the programme will prioritise engagement in key countries and regions that request our support on the basis of the following criteria:**

- **High levels of violent conflict and insecurity;**
- **Current UK spending levels on Small Arms Control;**
- **Departmental priority countries/regions;**
- **Countries that are potential suppliers of SALW to conflict zones;**

Building the capacity of HMG, partner Governments, NGOs and international organisations to deliver security and manage small arms over the long-term is critical to the success of the SSAC programme and the UNPoA. As a result the SSAC strategy focuses on:

- Analysis, research and dissemination of information to develop and improve SALW control policies and programming;
- Training and Capacity Building within both donor and recipient Governments and related stakeholders to increase the capacity within organisations to engage in SALW control interventions;
- Strengthening SALW control, including transfer controls;
- Strengthening SALW oversight and scrutiny;
- Weapons Stockpile Management and Destruction which include a capacity building element.

If you are planning a project which contributes towards the implementation of the UNPoA and it fits with the UK's mission and objectives, please get in touch to discuss the possibilities.

You can contact representatives from the FCO, DfID or MoD (overleaf); MoD lead on destruction and stockpile management issues, FCO on transfer controls and DfID on other areas.

You can also view our departmental websites, and contact your local UK Diplomatic Mission.



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### THE UNITED KINGDOM'S WORK ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

