June 2022



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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Front cover photo: Small Arms Survey

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# Abbreviations and acronyms

AAMVS	Arms and Ammunition Management Validation System
AMAT	Ammunition Management Advisory Team
ATT	Arms Trade Treaty
BMS8	Eighth Biennial Meeting of States (PoA)
CARICOM IMPACS	Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security
CENSS	Center for Security Studies
CHF	Swiss franc(s)
CSP8	Eighth Conference of States Parties to the ATT
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EU	European Union
GFH	Global Firearms Holdings (database)
GICHD	Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining
GVD	Global Violent Deaths (database)
HSBA	Human Security Baseline Assessment for Sudan and South Sudan
IED	Improvised explosive device
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
LAS	League of Arab States
MAG	Mines Advisory Group
MANPADS	Man-portable air defence systems
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
NAP	National action plan
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
РоА	Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects
R-ARCSS	Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan
REGISYNC	Developing Common Minimum Standards for Legal Arms Registers and Improving Information Exchange Among EU Member States, South-east Europe, Moldova, and Ukraine
SAENK	Strengthening Implementation and Enforcement of the Arms Embargo on North Korea
SANA	Security Assessment in North Africa
UEMS	Unplanned Explosions at Munitions Sites (database)
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNMAS	United Nations Mine Action Service
WAM	Weapons and ammunition management
WPS	Women, Peace, and Security

# I. Director's introduction

As the Canadian author Margaret Atwood once wrote: 'A war is a huge fire; the ashes from it drift far, and settle slowly.' In 2022, the ashes from the Russian war of aggression in Ukraine have indeed drifted far, and its effects have been felt globally. While the invasion of Ukraine captured much of the world's attention, other crises continued unabated in Afghanistan, the Sahel and West Africa, Central Africa, the Middle East, and elsewhere. Worrying patterns of democratic regression and a flood of mis- and disinformation from state and non-state sources challenge organizations, such as the Small Arms Survey, that support international standards and good governance through the production and dissemination of reliable information. These challenges make our work more difficult, but also more necessary than ever.

Nevertheless, the Survey proved its resilience and adaptability in 2022, maintaining a solid project portfolio. Geographically, the Survey expanded its already sizeable footprint in East and West Africa, Europe, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), the Caribbean, South America, and the Indo-Pacific. To undertake this work effectively, the Survey reinforced its capabilities related to data and analytics, policy and capacity support, and project managementa trend that will continue as demand for our support grows. The Survey's good financial results in 2022 are a result of improvements to management processes in 2020 and 2021.

To understand the interaction between small arms demand and supply, the Survey conducts extensive research on conflict dynamics and drivers for violent extremism. In 2022, our Human Security Baseline Assessment (HSBA) project on Sudan and South Sudan entered a new cycle with a renewed focus on Sudan. In November 2022, the Security Assessment in North Africa (SANA) project launched a report jointly produced with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on violent extremism in the Libyan borderlands, a major achievement based on almost 7,000 individual interviews in the region. In the Caribbean, the Survey

partnered with the Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM IMPACS) and worked with public health and security agencies and regional research institutions to better understand trafficking patterns and the costs of armed violence. The research combined innovative data collection tools and methods, including prison inmate surveys, forensic and ballistic records, Freedom of Information Act requests, hospital data on gun injuries, and court document analysis. An expert reviewer of the draft report declared it 'the most overall assessment of the problem I have seen'.

The Survey deploys its diverse range of capacities to support its partners in complementary ways. For example, in November 2022, two years of research on improvised explosive devices (IEDs) culminated in a two-day conference in Lomé, Togo-co-organized with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission-with the participation of all ECOWAS member states. The Survey will now work with the ECOWAS Commission and interested member states to develop policies and plans to reduce the IED threat. Similarly, field research on stocks of NATO-pattern firearms in Afghanistan informed discussions with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) on specific measures to prevent and detect regional proliferation.

The Survey continued to support regional and national partners in 2022. Our work in South America expanded as we continued our collaboration with Chile and Colombia and began collaborating with Argentina's small arms agency. In Somaliland, we accompanied the development of a national action plan (NAP) on explosive hazards management, adopted by the government in late 2022. We also contributed to the development of small arms NAPs in Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone, assisting the respective National Commissions to establish sustainable working relationships with other relevant national institutions and to integrate a meaningful gender perspective into the NAP development process. In Europe, the Survey joined a consortium to study and disseminate good practices in national firearms registries.

On the multilateral policy front, the Survey leveraged its networks and expertise to provide extensive support to national delegates at three major events in 2022: the Eighth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (BMS8); the Eighth Conference of States Parties to the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT CSP8); and the Open-Ended Working Group on Ammunition. With its extensive knowledge of the small arms international framework and its convening capacity, the Survey contributed to these processes by organizing side events and maintaining bilateral discussions with national delegations and civil society representatives. Delegates welcomed, in particular, the Survey's contributions on the topic of gender-responsive small arms control and the participation of women in arms control mechanisms.

The Survey's work on genderresponsive small arms control advanced considerably in 2022. The draft Global Framework on Ammunition Through-life Management and the BMS8 outcome document, for example, adopted Surveyrecommended language. Additionally, the Survey facilitated a session on small arms at the the fourth capital-level meeting of the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Focal Points Network, resulting in the inclusion of small arms in the joint communiqué. The Survey also leveraged its expertise in fostering the inclusion of women's voices in national-level small arms control processes and building synergies with the WPS community.

The developments of 2022 show that the work of the Small Arms Survey is more crucial than ever. In a world gripped with tension and awash with misinformation, there is a clear need for evidence-based and balanced analysis about small arms and armed violence. The Survey team, which I have the honour to lead, enters 2023 ready for that challenge.

-Daniel de Torres Director

#### Type of activity

- Generating data
- Strengthening capacities
- Both

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#### Addressing and Preventing Violent Extremism in Africa: A Development Approach

#### Funder: UN Development Programme (UNDP)

To undertake a perception survey in the borderlands of southern Libya, northern Chad, northern Niger, and northern Sudan, as well as relevant communities in Nigeria, in order to assess remote border communities' vulnerability to violent extremism and explore the relationship between the drivers of violent extremism and firearms availability and trafficking. 

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Human Security Baseline Assessment (HSBA) for Sudan and South Sudan: Research or **Conflict Dynamics in Sudan's** Peripheries

#### Funder: US State Department

To conduct research and disseminate public information on the political and economic dynamics driving conflict in Sudan for civilian authorities—in civilian government—in order to develop security and economic policies and programmes addressing violence and instability within Sudan's peripheries, including North Sudan, Eastern Sudan, Darfur, the states of Blue Nile and South Kordofan, and the Sudan-South Sudan border. To

**HSBA for Sudan and South** Sudan: Research on Conflict **Dynamics in South Sudan** 

#### Funder: US State Department

To generate empirical research on evolving political and conflict-related developments in Sudan and South Sudan in order to inform policy and humanitarian responses to ongoing crises in these countries.

# Projects and consultancies active in 2022

Supporting National and **Regional Capacities in Reducing the Risks Posed by** Illicit Weapons Flows in the Caribbean and Africa

#### Funder: Germany

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Improvised Explosive

Devices (IEDs) in West Africa

Funder: Germany and France

dimensions of trafficking in IED

establish an evidence base for

developing a regional response.

components in the Sahel and

To document the regional

West Africa in order to

Security Assessment in

Funder: The Netherlands

evidence-based research and

arms, armed groups, conflict

in North Africa and the

support and inform those

engaged in building a more

secure regional environment.

analysis on issues related to small

dynamics, and related insecurity

Sahel–Sahara region in order to

North Africa (SANA)

To produce timely,

To support the Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM IMPACS) with a study on firearms and ammunition trafficking. The research will inform evidence-based policymaking and interventions to reduce firearm-related crimes in the region.

#### **Strengthening Implementation** and Enforcement of the Arms Embargo on North Korea (SAENK)

#### **Funder: The Netherlands**

To increase knowledge and identify concrete actions on the practical implementation of the UN sanctions and arms embargo on North Korea in order to strengthen national nplementation and enforcement of the measures.

#### **Global Databases**

#### Funder: Core funding (Australia, Finland, Sweden, and Switzerland)

To generate data on the critical stages of the small arms life cycle to enable policymakers, practitioners, and the media to use accessible, reliable, inclusive, and multi-dimensional data and analysis, and inform public opinion accordingly.

**Tracking the Illicit Proliferation** of Advanced Man-portable Air **Defence Systems (MANPADS)** 

#### Funder: US State Department

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To track the illicit possession of advanced (3rd and 4th generation) MANPADS by non-state actors since 2011, with the goal of improving understanding of the threat posed by these missile systems.

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#### Craft Weapons in Africa: State of Play and **Regulatory Approaches**

#### Funder: France

To examine the latest developments in the artisanal arms and ammunition manufacturing sector in Africa, as well as review the main regulatory approaches used by states and regional organizations, in order to stimulate international and regional exchanges of information and good practices.

### **Developing Comm**

#### Minimum Standards for Legal Arms Registers and Improving Information Exchange Among EU Member States, South-east Europe, Ukraine, and Moldova (REGISYNC)

#### Funder: EU

To develop common minimum standards for civilian firearms registers and enhance information sharing across the EU and neighbouring states to help reduce the diversion of legal firearms to criminal and errorist organizations.

#### International Network **Studying Incidents with Guns:** Harm and Trafficking (INSIGHT)

#### Funder: EU

To develop a centralized online knowledge platform for recording information related to firearm violence in the EU, as well as to produce country sheets and eight analytical reports.

#### **Building Capacity to Prevent**, Detect, and Respond to the iversion of Conventional leapons in Chile and Colombia

#### Funder: Arms Trade Treaty Voluntary Trust Fund

To provide policymakers and officers from regulatory and frontline agencies with an overview of the main aspects of arms counter-diversion and diversion strategies and tactics to enable a comprehensive whole-of-government approach.

Afghanistan's Arsenals

To strengthen the evidence base

UN entities, and member states

working on arms proliferation

control in the country and the

about the risks of arms trafficking to

or/and from Afghanistan and to foster

collaboration between organizations,

Funder: Germany

wider region.

Funder: Mines Advisory Group (MAG)

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To produce an assessment of the state of affairs in terms of weapons and ammunition management (WAM) in Burkina Faso.

#### Supporting the Development of all Arms National Action Plans (NAPs) in Burkina Faso and erra Leone

### Funder: Mines Advisory Group (MAG)

To support the development of small arms NAPs in Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone.

upporting the Development of an Explosive Hazards ment National Action Plan (NAP) in Somaliland

#### Funder: HALO Trust

To support the development of a NAP on explosive hazard management in Somaliland in order to enhance national capacities to address the risks posed by explosive hazards.

#### Thematic area

Stocks and flows

Measures and programmes 🐲

Impact

#### Arms and Ammunition agement Validation System (AAMVS): Phase II

#### Funder: Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD)

To develop a concept for the creation of an AAMVS in order to support the implementation of WAM best practices and improve decision-making for stakeholders.

#### Diagnostic Workshop on Small Arms in Burkina Faso

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#### Combating the Illicit Trade in and Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the mber States of the League of Arab States (LAS): Phase II

#### Funder: EU

To support LAS member states in building sustainable capacities to combat the illicit trade in, and proliferation of, small arms and light weapons in their countries and the Arab region.

#### Gender-responsive Small Arms **Control: Inception Phase**

Funder: Germany and Switzerland

To support the meaningful inclusion of diverse perspectives and strengthen the evidence base for gender-responsive small arms control.

# II. Generating data

Data is one of the cornerstones of effective and sustainable policies. Through its Data and Analytics work stream, the Small Arms Survey provides accurate and coherent information to governments, practitioners, and communities. In 2022, the Survey tracked, documented, and provided analysis on conflict dynamics and arms trafficking in some of the most affected regions, and developed online knowledge platforms that centralize all data and analysis on small arms and firearm violence. As part of these projects, the Data and Analytics team produced reports and developed methodologies at the global, regional, and national level.

At the time of writing, the war in Ukraine had just passed the one-year mark. Having worked with partners in Ukraine from 2014-15 onwards, the Survey has consulted with them frequently since the outbreak of war in 2022 to understand their needs, as well as how to support the country in addressing unprecedented arms-related challenges. The Survey produced a blog post, 'Footnotes: Takeaways from Previous Small Arms Survey Research on Ukraine', reflecting on the Survey's previous research in the country. A project was developed with the Center for Security Studies (CENSS) and other partners. In late 2022, the Survey commissioned a phone-based pilot population survey, which focused on the impacts of the conflict and arms proliferation. Preliminary results were published in a blog post in April 2023.

Also at the national level, the Survey started conducting research on the political and economic dynamics driving conflict in different regions of Sudan. The research will assist relevant actors to develop security and economic policies and programmes addressing armed violence and instability within Sudan's peripheries, including North and Eastern Sudan, Darfur, Blue Nile and South Kordofan states, and the Sudan–South Sudan border.

The Survey produced two publications in 2022 on political and conflict dynamics in South Sudan. The Report 'And Everything Became War': Warrap State since the Signing of the R-ARCSS explores Dinka sub-sectional armed conflict in Warrap state, and *The Periphery* Cannot Hold: Upper Nile since the Signing of the R-ARCSS looks at the Shilluk-Padang Dinka contestation of territory in Upper Nile state. The Warrap state Report is the most comprehensive contemporary account available of inter-clan conflict among Dinka groups in Warrap. The Upper Nile Report provides in-depth analysis of heightening political and ethnic tensions in the state, and importantly describes how 'local' state-level violence is linked to political elites in Juba-a dynamic that national politicians and signatories to the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS) peace agreement are intent on suppressing.

Several projects in 2022 considered issues at the regional level. Supported by UNDP, the Survey also surveyed nearly 7,000 people in remote border areas of five countries in the Sahel-southern Libya, northern Chad, northern Niger, northern Sudan, and relevant communities in north-west Nigeria-to assess these communities' vulnerability to violent extremism and explore the relationship between the drivers of violent extremism and firearms availability and trafficking. Based on the findings, the Survey engaged with development and prevention of violent extremism practitioners to produce a detailed set of policy and programmatic observations, and published a Report entitled Perceptions, Vulnerabilities, and Prevention: Violent Extremism Threat Assessment in Selected Regions of the Southern Libyan Borderlands and North-Western Nigeria in Arabic, English, and French—as well as an article, 'Violent Extremism Could Beckon in Northwestern Nigeria if Local Dynamics Are Ignored', in The Conversation Africa.

The Survey's SANA team initiated new research on Turkish intervention in Libya, Salafism in Libya since 2019, and weapons intelligence in peace operations. New areas of research also included arms use by extremists in Mali, and manportable air defence systems (MANPADS) proliferation in the MENA and Sahel regions. In early 2022, the Survey authored an article, 'Arms Trade to Africa Can Be Opaque: Why This Is Dangerous', published in The Conversation Africa. In November, SANA organized a three-day training workshop in Amman, Jordan, on weapons reporting and identification for 15 journalists from the MENA region (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Tunisia, Sudan, and Yemen), in partnership with Arab Reporters for Investigative Journalism.

In November 2022, the Survey organized, in partnership with ECOWAS, the first regional conference on countering IEDs in West Africa, in Lomé, Togopaving the way for the development of a regional strategy to counter IEDs. The Survey prepared a summary of research for the conference, based on a regional report to be published in 2023. The conference made it possible to gain further insights from other African subregionsnotably eastern and southern Africa-on commonalities and emerging patterns of IED trafficking and use (including in transnational organized crime), and responses adopted in other settings. The conference highlighted the Survey's expertise on IEDs and enabled it to meet with various national, international, and NGO partners working in this area. Additionally, in September 2022, the Survey completed a related research project for the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) on trafficking in IED components in the Liptako Gourma region.

At the regional level, the Survey also supported the Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM IMPACS) in 2022 by working on a Small Arms Survey Report, Weapons Compass: The Caribbean Firearms Study, about firearms and ammunition trafficking (published April 2023). The research will inform evidence-based policymaking and interventions to reduce firearm-related crimes in the region, such as the Caribbean Firearms Roadmap. Partnership agreements were signed with prestigious regional research institutions, such as the University of the West Indies, that have the capacity to replicate the methods developed for this study beyond the project's lifespan. The Survey also supported the establishment of a regional advisory committee of civil

#### Box 1 Global databases

The Small Arms Survey monitors trends and developments of holdings, transfers, and impacts of small arms through its global databases. These include:

- the Global Firearms Holdings (GFH) database, which provides estimates of the number of firearms in the world, disaggregated by civilian, law enforcement, and military holdings;
- the Global Violent Deaths (GVD) database, which provides estimates on lethal violence, including sex-disaggregated data and data on lethal violence inflicted by firearms;
- the Small Arms Trade Transparency Barometer, which analyses and ranks the transparency of global authorized small arms exporters; and
- the Unplanned Explosions at Munitions Sites (UEMS) database, which consolidates information on accidental explosions of ammunition stockpiles at storage sites.

society experts to guide and validate the study, as well as the implementation of innovative data collection tools and methods—including inmate surveys, detailed analysis of forensics and ballistics data, Freedom of Information Act requests, hospital data on gun injuries, and court document analysis. The resulting pool of data comprises information from 13 of the 15 CARICOM member states, and from 22 Caribbean states in total as well as from government agencies in France and the United States.

Under the same project, the Survey co-hosted with CARICOM a validation workshop in Barbados. The workshop which was attended by our advisory committee of 13 regional experts in law enforcement and counter-trafficking, firearms forensics, public health, law, and armed violence—featured detailed presentations on the data and methodology underlying the Report. The Report was revised to reflect the substantive feedback provided by the attendees. Following a review period for CARICOM countries, the Report was launched on 26 April 2023 in Port of Spain.

At the European level, 2022 saw the launch of Project INSIGHT—the aim of which is to develop a centralized online knowledge platform for recording information related to firearm violence in the European Union (EU). Based on this information, stakeholders will be able to develop more appropriate and effective policies and operational interventions. The Survey worked in collaboration with the Flemish Peace Institute, Textgain, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, and the Institute of Security and Global Affairs (Universiteit Leiden) to develop a beta version of the knowledge platform. This project is also supported by the Belgian Federal Police, the Dutch National Police, the European Firearms Experts, Europol, and the South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC). The Survey also consulted with law enforcement to facilitate access to primary data.

At a global level, in 2022 the Survey compiled a database of illicit possession and transfers of MANPADS. The database contains 406 unique reports of MANPADS obtained by—or transferred to—armed groups in 32 countries on five continents. To complement the creation of the database, the Survey published a blog post, 'The Illicit Possession and Transfer of MANPADS: A Global Assessment', on the subject of MANPADS proliferation.

The Survey's databases (Box 1) are vital resources for global debates on small arms—providing accessible, reliable, inclusive, and multi-dimensional data and analysis that is regularly relied on by media outlets.

In addition to the Transparency Barometer 2022 update, the Survey also updated the GVD database with data up to 2020, and published a related infographic and a blog post, 'The Calm Before the Storm: Global Violent Deaths Update 2019–2020', presenting regional trends. It also contributed to the *SDG16 Data Initiative Global Report 2022*, and presented an interactive data visualization dashboard created for the Geneva Peace Week (GPW) 2022 Digital Series (see Image 1).



#### Image 1. GVD interactive visualization dashboard

# **III. Strengthening capacities**

Effective and sustainable policies depend on successful implementation. In order to be successful, policy implementation must be based on tailored, locally owned solutions. With this objective in mind, the Small Arms Survey's Policy and Capacity Support unit offers research-informed policy advice as well as direct support to partners in developing, disseminating, and implementing policies, practices, and standards. In 2022, the Survey provided support at both the national and regional level, including working with country delegations during the small arms control multilateral process, facilitating the development of national small arms strategies and NAPs, delivering online and in-person training sessions, and designing self-assessment tools.

At the national level, during 2022 the Survey supported the development of a NAP on explosive hazard management in Somaliland, with the goal of enhancing national capacities to address the risks posed by explosive hazards. The plan was adopted by the Somaliland government, and integrated into the five-year work plan of the Somaliland Ministry of Defence.

The Survey also supported the development of NAPs in Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone, facilitating the development of a five-year strategy for WAM in both countries. In line with wider security-related policies, these strategies will provide the overall direction for the development of WAM operational plans in 2023. Through its comprehensive approach to NAP development, the Survey managed to create synergies that extend beyond WAM stakeholders. The work of the Survey allowed the National Commissions in Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone to establish sustainable working relationships with other relevant national institutions (the National Commission on Security Sector Reform, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, the Ministry of Planning, and the Ministry of Gender Affairs). The methodology used by the Survey also allowed for the integration of a meaningful gender perspective into the NAP development process in both countries.

In preparation for the development of these NAPs in Burkina Faso and Sierra Leone, the Survey convened a three-day workshop, gathering a wide range of stakeholders involved in WAM. This contributed to the production of a WAM diagnostic report, which was validated by the Burkinabè authorities and served as the initial analysis for the development of a new arms control strategy and related NAP (ongoing). Official decrees were published regarding the composition of the NAP steering committee and editorial committee, both of which include representatives from civil society and from the Ministry of Gender Affairs.

As part of efforts to provide policymakers and officers from regulatory and frontline agencies in Chile and Colombia with information about arms and counter arms diversion, in 2022 the Survey supported online training sessions and an in-person event in Colombia. The sessions and the event were very well received by the participants, who expressed a desire for a follow-up project in 2023. The surveys collected during the various events demonstrated that the knowledge and exchanges provided through this project have served to strengthen participants' confidence and capabilities in their field of work. A report on lessons learned was shared with the participants and the ATT Secretariat.

At the regional level—continuing its support to the League of Arab States (LAS) in their fight against illicit small arms and light weapons—the Survey collaborated with INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization, and the LAS Department of Arms Control and Disarmament to achieve two main objectives: to promote the exchange of information on small-arms-related challenges and solutions within the Arab region; and to build sustainable capacity for small arms control in LAS member states. By the end of 2022, the Survey and its partners had conducted the Phase II Inception Meeting (May), two webinars for LAS member states (March, September), two in-person national training programmes (June, December), and the first of two regional workshops (October). The Survey also worked throughout the year to strengthen its contacts in LAS member states by establishing a network of national focal points. Towards the end of 2022, the Survey had launched preparations for further activities in 2023, namely additional national training programmes, the second regional workshop, and the start of the project's regional training programme in the United Arab Emirates.

In 2022, the Survey partnered with the Ammunition Management Advisory Team (AMAT) of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) to work on the creation of an Arms and Ammunition Management Validation System (AAMVS) to support the implementation of WAM best practices and improve arms exports decisionmaking for relevant actors. The project team (AMAT and the Survey) developed a self-assessment tool and four potential options for the AAMVS. A workshop in Brussels and an online presentation were organized in November and December 2022 to present these outputs to the stakeholders. The participants of the workshop had the opportunity to discuss and validate the most appropriate and feasible option. A demo of the self-assessment tool was also organized to enable participants to better understand and visualize the tool. In 2022, the Survey presented the AAMVS concept at

# Image 2. Examples of headstamps documented in Kosovo



#### Photos 1 and 2: 7.62 × 39 mm cartridge cases produced in China

Photo 3: 7.62 × 25 mm Tokarev cartridge case produced by

Prvi Partizan in Serbia

### Photo 4:

7.62 × 25 mm Tokarev cartridge case produced in China

Source: Kosovo Police

# IV. Applying knowledge

BMS8 and CSP8 side events targeting international arms control processes. The Council of the EU adopted Council Decision (CFSP) 2022/2275 to continue the development of the AAMVS in 2023–24 and to encourage the efforts of regional organizations and their member states to develop their own AAMVS.

At a global level, the Survey worked towards the meaningful inclusion of diverse perspectives, and strengthening the evidence base for gender-responsive small arms control. The Survey took part in a session on small arms at the fourth capital-level meeting of the WPS Focal Points Network (May 2022) and hosted a side event entitled 'Gender, Conventional Weapons, and the ATT: A 2022 Review' at CSP8. The Survey's initial findings were presented at the WPS Focal Points Network meeting, and then validated in a series of remote workshops. The Small Arms Survey Report Bringing Home Women, Peace, and Security, and Small Arms Control: Opportunities for Collaboration at the National Level will be developed and released in 2023. The Survey also released the Report Missing or Unseen? Exploring Women's Roles in Arms Trafficking and two Briefing Papers: At Whose Risk? Understanding States Parties' Implementation of Arms Trade Treaty Gender-based Violence Provisions and Extracting Evidence: Opportunities and Obstacles in Assessing the Gendered Impacts of Diverted Ammunition (see Image 2). Additionally, the Survey also produced a blog post, 'Towards More Tenacious Teamwork: On the Collaboration Between the WPS and Small Arms Control Communities', as well as a podcast, 'Small Arms Survey Podcast #53: Women in Arms Trafficking'.

The global impact of the Survey's work on gender was demonstrated throughout 2022. In the BMS8 outcome document, the language on genderresponsive small arms control was strengthened in part through a joint statement on gender mainstreaming signed by 53 states, which draws on the Survey's research. A dedicated gender section of the draft Global Framework on Ammunition Through-life Managementsupported by a joint statement on gender mainstreaming signed by 28 statesadopted recommended language from the Survey. In addition, the Survey was invited to contribute to government consultations on Germany's new Feminist Foreign Policy.

The Small Arms Survey emphasizes datadriven and research-informed policies and processes. Certain projects inevitably overlap between the Survey's two work streams. In 2022, the Data and Analysis and the Policy and Capacity Support units collaborated on four national and regional projects.

The two units worked to strengthen the evidence base for identifying lessons learned from previous mass proliferation events in order to draw implications for the current situation in Afghanistan and understand the risks of arms trafficking in the region. This included convening a closed expert workshop on lessons from mass proliferation events and policy implications for Afghanistan, and producing a restricted background paper on proliferation risks and control strategies. The workshop and paper contributed to defining future priorities for key international stakeholders in this area. The Survey received further funding to support work in these priority areas.

Towards the end of 2022, the Survey contracted two research teams to deploy in five Afghanistan provinces to document prices of NATO and Soviet arms at illicit markets, cross-border smuggling dynamics, and Taliban arms management practices—generating the first known data points on illicit arms smuggling, prices for NATO- and Soviet-pattern weapons in arms markets, and arms management practices under the Taliban. The Survey demonstrated that illicit arms smuggling and pricing field research could be safely and successfully conducted in Afghanistan under Taliban control.

In sub-Saharan Africa, the Survey completed background research on artisanal weapons and shared it with the French government. Preliminary findings from the Survey's study raised interest from the small arms control units from both the African Union and the ECOWAS Commission. In 2023, these findings will be turned into a Briefing Paper focusing on West Africa, with the aim of fostering regional discussions with the ECOWAS Commission and member states.

As part of a consortium (under project REGISYNC) with Arquebus Solutions Europe, ECORYS, and the Center for the Study of Democracy, the Survey is work-

ing to assess practices for civilian firearms registers in order to identify common minimum standards and enhance information sharing across EU member states, Southeast Europe, Ukraine, and Moldova. This ongoing project has so far resulted in good collaboration within the consortium and among the beneficiaries involved. In particular, the overall response rate from the countries contacted for this study has been above average compared to similar activities conducted by the consortium partners. In 2022, the Survey contributed to the preparation of a policy paper for the EU, which outlined the common standards for a life-cycle firearms registry.

In 2022, the Survey's two work streams also endeavoured to increase knowledge and identify concrete actions on the practical implementation of the UN sanctions and arms embargo on North Korea, with the goal of strengthening national implementation and enforcement of the measures. As part of the Strengthening Implementation and Enforcement of the Arms Embargo on North Korea (SAENK) project, the Survey prepared a Report on national reporting practices under the UN sanctions regime on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (to be published in 2023). The units also prepared an online version of the Arms Embargo Self-Assessment Tool, which will also be made available in 2023. In June 2022, a preliminary version of the Survey's 'North Korean Small Arms and Light Weapons: A Recognition Guide' was shared during a webinar entitled 'Recognize and Respond'. A published version of this Guide was launched in spring 2023. In order to stimulate better practice exchange, in November 2022, the Survey co-hosted with the Netherlands Mission to the UN in New York a multistakeholder workshop on objectives and priorities on technical peacekeeping intelligence in UN peace operations, including arms embargo and sanctions monitoring. The SAENK team also engaged regularly with the 1718 Committee's Panel of Experts and other stakeholders, including at CSP8. An evaluation of this project demonstrated that its work and outputs had been much appreciated by a range of stakeholders.

# V. Enhancing outreach

# Reports



# June 2022

Missing or Unseen? Women's Roles in Arms Trafficking

🗯 English



### November 2022

Perceptions, Vulnerabilities, and Prevention: Violent Extremism Threat Assessment in Selected Regions of the Southern Libyan Borderlands and North-Western Nigeria

🗯 Arabic / English / French



## November 2022

HSBA Report

The Periphery Cannot Hold: Upper Nile since the Signing of the R-ARCSS

💮 English



December 2022

HSBA Report

'And Everything Became War': Warrap State since the Signing of the R-ARCSS

🛞 English

# Example Paper We want water and the second second

**Briefing Papers** 

# March 2022

At Whose Risk? Understanding States Parties' Implementation of Arms Trade Treaty Gender-based Violence Provisions

💮 English



# May 2022

Extracting Evidence: Opportunities and Obstacles in Assessing the Gendered Impacts of Diverted Ammunition

💮 English

# **Podcast Episodes**



### February 2022

Small Arms Survey Podcast #52: Private Security Companies and Weapons & Ammunition Management



# July 2022

Small Arms Survey Podcast #53: Women in Arms Trafficking

💮 English

💮 English

# **Blog Posts**



### February 2022

Arms Trade to Africa Can Be Opaque: Why This is Dangerous

💮 English



### April 2022

Footnotes: Takeaways From Previous Small Arms Survey Research on Ukraine

💮 English



# May 2022

Towards More Tenacious Teamwork: On the Collaboration Between the WPS and Small Arms Control Communities



## June 2022

The Illicit Possession and Transfer of MANPADS: A Global Assessment

💮 English



## July 2022

English / French

The Calm Before the Storm: Global Violent Deaths Update 2019–2020

💮 English



### December 2022

Violent Extremism Could Beckon in North-western Nigeria if Local Dynamics Are Ignored

💮 English

# Databases



# July 2022 Updated and data for 2020 included

# Global Violent Deaths (GVD) Update

💮 English





### October 2022

GVD interactive visualization dashboard (as part of Geneva Peace Week)

🗯 English

# December 2022 Updated with data for 2019

Transparency Barometer Update

🗯 English



# **VI.** Reinforcing operations

# **Institutional development**

In 2022, the Survey maintained and consolidated the structure established the previous year: two programmatic units; an administration, finance, and human resources support unit; and a publications and communications team supporting programmatic outputs. The Survey made considerable investments to strengthen its grant management and financial management capacities, a trend that will continue in 2023, with the aim of increasing the efficiency of its operations, delivering high-quality results, and meeting donor requirements. The Survey continued supporting the team's professional development by facilitating their participation in courses on weapons and ammunitions management, results-based management, firearms and ballistics, and first aid.

As its 2019–23 strategy reaches its final year, the Survey began preparing the ground in 2022 for the development of its next five-year strategy. The annual Internal Review Meeting—a two-day gathering of the Survey's extended team-took place in September and marked the inception of the year-long strategy development process with a 'SWOT' analysis of the Survey. In December, the Survey's counterpart at the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the Peace and Human Rights Division, commissioned an external evaluation of the Survey's work in the period 2019-22. The evaluation report was received in the first quarter of 2023.

# **Financial developments**

The Survey's stable financial position continued in 2022, recording a minor deficit of CHF 44,995 in operating expenses of CHF 5,503,365—a 10 per cent increase over 2021 expenses. The good financial result confirms the benefits of investments made in grant management and more efficient allocation of financial resources.

The Survey depends entirely on external funding, and it is thanks to its donors' support that it can carry out its operations. In 2022, the Survey was grateful for the unrestricted support granted by Australia, Sweden, and Switzerland. Unrestricted funding allows the Survey to maintain its institutional knowledge, react promptly to new developments, and explore innovative ideas in underserved areas. Additionally, in 2022 the Survey received project-specific support from the EU, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the United States, the ATT Voluntary Trust Fund, UNDP, and UNMAS, as well as service contracts from several UN agencies and other partners.

# About the **Small Arms Survey**

The Small Arms Survey is a global centre of excellence whose mandate is to generate impartial, evidence-based, and policy-relevant knowledge on all aspects of small arms and armed violence. It is the principal international source of expertise, information, and analysis on small arms and armed violence issues, and acts as a resource for governments, policymakers, researchers, and civil society. It is located in Geneva, Switzerland, and is an associated programme of the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies.

The Survey has an international staff with expertise in security studies, political science, law, economics, development studies, sociology, and criminology, and collaborates with a network of researchers, partner institutions, non-governmental organizations, and governments in more than 50 countries.

The Survey's activities and outputs are made possible through core support as well as project funding. A full list of current donors can be accessed via the Small Arms Survey website.

For more information, please visit: www.smallarmssurvey.org.

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