

Western Balkans SALW Control Roadmap MPTF

United Nations Multi-Partner Trust Fund in support of the implementation of 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



PROJECT DOCUMENT

Project title: Law Enforcement Agencies' Development in Small Arms and Light Weapon's Control (Project LEAD)	
Targeted jurisdiction(s): Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Participating organizations: United Nations Development Programme	
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Implementing partners: BiH SALW Coordination Board, Ministries of Internal Affairs, Associations of Women Police Officers, Indirect Taxation Authority, Border Police, Civil Society Organizations	
Project number from MPTF-O Gateway (if existing project): N/A	
Relevant SDG targets: SDG 16.1; 16.4; 16.a; SDG 5.2; 5.5; 5.c.	
Project duration (in months): 24 Months Anticipated start date: 30 November 2023 Anticipated end date: 30 November 2025	Total amount: US\$ 1,455,035 Sources of funding: <ol style="list-style-type: none">UN MPTF: US\$ 1,455,035Other sources of funding<ul style="list-style-type: none">Government: US\$ ____UN Organization: US\$ ____
Brief project overview: <p>The Project LEAD aims to enhance the capacity and engagement of relevant national institutions and civil society in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as strengthen inter-agency and cross-border collaboration to advance the implementation of the National SALW Control Strategy and the SALW Control Roadmap. The project builds upon previous interventions and entails a series of activities that focus on inter-agency operational and strategic cooperation, as well as provision of specialized resources, equipment and knowledge and peer-exchange to prevent and counter FAE-related crime. An inclusive approach to civil society organizations and outreach to communities and stakeholders will be ensured, with duly integrated gender and human rights perspectives. The expected result is a comprehensive strengthening of key stakeholders in the SALW control field, leading to increased ownership and sustainability.</p>	
Contribution to Roadmap Goals: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	
Project Gender Marker Score (1, 2, 3 or N/A): 2	

Names and signatures of the Participating UN Organizations

Sylvain Merlen Resident Representative a.i. UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina	Signature:  Date: 30/11/23
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Description of the project

The Law Enforcement Agencies Development in Small Arms and Light Weapons Control (Project LEAD) aims to provide further support to law enforcement agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) to strengthen their capacities with an overall aim to establish a self-sustainable capacity in the field of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) control. It builds on previous project interventions within support to implementation of *Roadmap for a sustainable solution to the illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW)/firearms and their ammunition in the Western Balkans (the Roadmap)*¹, which mainly focused on standardization of operational proceedings in combatting illegal SALW trafficking as well as technical and human capacity development for improved detection and deterrence of illicit SALW through various sets of focused activities.

The Project LEAD aims to ensure consolidation of the ongoing efforts and achievements of other implemented interventions including projects implemented by UNDP Country Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina². Overall, the project shall build upon the support to enhance capacities of the relevant law enforcement agencies as well as to facilitate operational cooperation within the security sector and between the security sector and relevant prosecutors' offices. Additionally, the Project shall intensify "bottom to top" approach and shift the focus from traditional awareness raising activities to more structured communication with relevant community groups by engaging civil society organizations active in the field pertinent to SALW control. Finally, the Project shall integrate gender and human rights perspectives into all envisioned activities by building on achievements of complementary project interventions and introducing implementation of human rights due diligence in managing the risks of engagement with the security sector.

Proposed approach shall focus on three major areas of SALW control, including:

- Operational area of engagement: Further support to capacitation of law enforcement agencies, operational cooperation within security sector, cooperation between security sector and prosecutors' offices and regional exchange and cooperation.
- Strategic area of engagement: Further support at the strategic level including support to inter-agency and inter-institutional cooperation, bi-lateral cooperation with neighboring jurisdictions and strengthening strategic and planning capacities to foster sustainability of project interventions.
- Community, and in particular women's engagement: Further capacitation of law enforcement agencies in awareness raising activities through engagement with relevant community groups and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) as well as support in due implementation of the Law on Gender Equality of BiH and gender commitments deriving from the BiH SALW Control Strategy.

Expected results of such an approach shall include further strengthening of relevant agencies and institutions which benefited from the top to bottom approach implemented in the previous interventions. Those interventions resulted in the development and extensive country-wide harmonization of operational procedures, equipping and training of relevant staff. Through proposed intervention, those results will be further institutionalized as well as expanded from the national to sub-national levels (entities, cantons, municipalities) including institutional communication and information sharing with relevant community groups and civil society organizations. In terms of fostering sustainability of results, overall integration of the country-specific results into results of similar interventions and regional efforts, the proposed intervention shall strive to establish good practices in communication and exchanges at the local level to be potentially used as a model for sub-regional and regional

¹ <http://www.seesac.org/f/docs/News-SALW/Roadmap-for-sustainable-solution.pdf>

² CIAT – Countering Illicit Arms Trafficking, HALT – Halting Arms and Lawbreaking Trade, PILLAR+ - Prevention and Illicit Arms Reduction in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and DIRC – Digitalization and Institutional and Regional Cooperation

exchanges. The proposed intervention shall capitalize on the complexity of the institutional and operational setup of Bosnia and Herzegovina to develop examples of good practices of coordination and cooperation in a multi-institutional setting. Additionally, proposed intervention shall include bi-lateral communication between forensic labs in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia as a potential model and pathway for later formal exchanges of ballistics data within the Western Balkans and beyond. Furthermore, proposed intervention shall continue to address gender issues such as negative effects of illegal SALW particularly on women, young men, and communities while, at the same time, it will provide support to further development of enabling environment within relevant institutions toward an increased number of women police officers in the management positions.

Proposed intervention has been developed through continued monitoring of ongoing initiatives and close coordination with the BiH SALW Coordination Board. It is fully aligned with the goals of the Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) Control Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH SALW Strategy)³ and the Roadmap.

Contribution to the Roadmap Goals:

In terms of its direct contribution to the implementation of the SALW Control Roadmap, the project activities shall contribute to the achievement of Goals 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Roadmap, as follows:

- **Goal 1** (ensure that arms control legislation is in place, fully harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and standardized across the region) - The project will contribute to Goal 1 through its focus on standardizing procedures and practice of relevant bodies. It will support the ballistic laboratories in BiH through operational exchange with laboratories in Serbia to expand the scope of accreditation and strengthen standardization of procedures and practice in FAE-related investigations in line with ISO 17025 standard. It will provide specialized equipment and ensure that operational framework is maintained in line with good practice. In addition to the operational peer-exchange for ballistic experts, peer-exchange will be supported for arson and explosive experts as well. Further to Goal 1, the standardized work in the forensics field will represent a cross-cutting contribution to Goals 2, 3 and 5.
- **Goal 2** (ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence based and intelligence led) - the project's contribution to this Goal is seen through the support to cross-border operational exchange among ballistic and arson-explosive experts, as well as through the advancement of data collection and analysis by BiH law enforcement agencies using digital resources. Furthermore, specialized equipment that the project will provide to law enforcement agencies is expected to enhance intelligence-led investigations in BiH.
- **Goal 3** (reduce the illegal circulation of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) towards, within and beyond the Western Balkans) – through the provision of specialized training and equipment for law enforcement agencies, as well via the support to joint inter-agency and cross-border operations, the project will contribute to deterring and countering of illicit arms flows and therefore contribute to the achievement of Roadmap Goal 3.
- **Goal 4** (reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy) – the project will dedicate significant resources to mobilize civil society and communities in the efforts to advance achievement of Goal 4. The project entails a dedicated community outreach through civil society organizations and development of partnerships to strengthen advocacy, reinforce outreach, and reach messaging multipliers, as well as increasing awareness among the general population, both women and men, of the dangers of the misuse, illicit possession, and trafficking of SALW. Efforts will also be made to enhance education on SALW matters via training and education institutions, including through integrating knowledge products within institutionalized programs.
- **Goal 5** (decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans). Through its targeted outreach to communities, among others young population or gun owners, and through provided technical and operational support to law enforcement agencies in seizing illicit FAE, the project will contribute to the achievement of Goal 5.

³ https://www.vijeceministara.gov.ba/akti/prijedlozi_zakona/default.aspx?id=35106&langTag=hr-HR

1. Project Background (situation analysis)

Country Context, Constitutional and Legal Setting

Following its application for EU membership in February 2016, Bosnia and Herzegovina has been required to fulfil 14 key priorities set out in the Commission Opinion of May 2019 which covers democracy/functionality, the rule of law, fundamental rights, and public administration reform⁴. This is required for the Commission to recommend opening EU accession negotiations with Bosnia and Herzegovina. In June 2022 the European Council expressed its readiness to grant the status of candidate country while the leaders of the European Union unanimously decided to grant EU candidate status to Bosnia and Herzegovina on 15 December 2022.

The country is currently undergoing a severe political and an institutional crisis that can only further exacerbate problems in an already fragmented security system in BiH in terms of more effective combat against illegal SALW trafficking. Prolonged political crisis started in July 2021 have been marked with inter-ethnic grievances and divisions. Deep political polarization and disagreement among the main parties of the ruling coalition led to a standstill in the work of the democratic institutions and on reforms on the EU path.

Starting from 2021 and throughout parts of 2022 political parties based in the Republika Srpska entity blocked legislative and executive institutions at state level and adopted initiatives to unilaterally take over state competences at entity level, in breach of the constitutional and legal order and in clear defiance of BiH Constitutional Court rulings, most notably on the issue of state property. The same parties also obstructed the implementation of EU restrictive measures on Russia with which Bosnia and Herzegovina had formally aligned. Institutions started to return to functioning in later part of 2022, and some steps were taken afterwards to start addressing the backlog of reforms.⁵ Nevertheless, the political crisis again escalated in 2023 due to Republika Srpska entity authorities defying BiH Constitutional Court decision on the state property and going as far as to threaten with the secession from BiH and *de facto* break-up of the country and breaking up relationships with some Western countries while facing harsh reactions from some members of the international community because of such statements.⁶

Stability and general progress of the country is affected by corruption, high unemployment rates, and raising rate of brain drain. While the general elections were held in October 2022 and were followed by a rather swift establishment of the BiH Council of Ministers, negotiations on establishment of authorities in Federation of BiH entity had not been completed until the end of April 2023 and disputes over electoral reforms continue. Despite continued political turmoil in Bosnia and Herzegovina, it has been seen over the past years that project interventions in the area of illicit SALW control have been a rare - if not the only - positive example of cooperation both internally in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the Western Balkans.

Overall security system as well as judiciary in Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to function in a fragmented setting very often without clear division of jurisdiction and responsibilities as well as without any form of subordination between law enforcement agencies at the state, entity, or cantonal levels. State-level police agencies with full budgetary and operational independence function under the auspices of the Ministry of Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina which legally has only coordination role over the agencies. These agencies include the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA), the Border Police, the Foreigners' Affairs Service (partial police competencies), and the Directorate for Police Bodies Coordination. Police agencies in the two entities (the Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior and the Federation Police Directorate), the Brcko District, and 10 cantonal interior ministries also exercise police powers and are fully independent from one another in

⁴ Bosnia and Herzegovina 2022 Report (<https://neighbourhood-enlargement.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-10/Bosnia%20and%20Herzegovina%20Report%202022.pdf>)

⁵ Bosnia and Herzegovina Report 2022 (europa.eu)

⁶ <https://n1info.ba/vijesti/delegacija-eu-u-bih-za-n1-dodikove-prijetnje-secesijom-su-nerealne/>, and <https://www.klix.ba/vijesti/bih/ambasada-sad-a-nece-mo-mirno-gledati-ako-dodik-bude-radio-na-potpriivanju-novog-sukoba-u-bih/230411152>

their functioning. While civilian authorities maintain effective control of law enforcement agencies and security forces, a lack of clear division of jurisdiction and responsibilities between the country's 16 law enforcement agencies often result in occasional confusion and overlapping responsibilities.

In terms of SALW control, all activities within the country are coordinated through the Coordination Board for Small Arms and Light Weapons Control in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SALW Coordination Board) which has been, in its current composition, appointed by the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina on 17 March 2021.⁷ The SALW Coordination Board is composed of 18 members representing 12 institutions from the state and entity levels. As per the decision of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina taken on 17 March 2021, the SALW Coordination Board has been established as an inter-institutional body in charge of planning, coordination, directing, and monitoring of the activities pertinent to implementation of the Strategy for Small Arms and Light Weapons Control in Bosnia and Herzegovina for the period 2021 – 2024.

The legal framework regulating SALW is equally fragmented with total of 12 laws in the country (including 10 cantonal laws, one in Republika Srpska and one in District of Brcko) regulating acquiring, holding, and carrying of weapons and ammunition. While the process of aligning of the SALW legislation has been recognized as one of the goals of the Roadmap, to date only one canton in Bosnia and Herzegovina, namely Una-Sana Canton has broadly – not fully – aligned its relevant law with the EU *Aquis* while remaining laws are yet to undergo this process.⁸

As per the 2022 European Commission Progress Report for Bosnia and Herzegovina, the country has been recognized for its active engagement in the implementation of the Roadmap. Nevertheless, the country should demonstrate progress on implementing the 2021-2024 strategy and action plan for control of small arms and light weapons (SALW). All weapons of the country's security forces are to be marked and registered into a single registry to ensure adequate traceability of small arms and light weapons in the country. The marking and registration of the 62,000 small arms and light weapons held by the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina is now complete. Bosnia and Herzegovina is to develop post-manufacture marking and recordkeeping requirements for seized and confiscated weapons, and weapons earmarked for deactivation.⁹

However, other assessments and recommendations from the 2022 EC Report for Bosnia and Herzegovina have also been relevant to the country's efforts toward SALW Control, especially those regarding capacities to tackle organized crime both from the law enforcement and judiciary standpoint. In terms of tackling illegal SALW, it is relevant to note the comment from the Report regarding absence of harmonized legal frameworks across the country which lead to systemic shortcomings in the operational cooperation of law enforcement agencies, due to non-harmonised criminal legislation, weak institutional coordination, and a very limited exchange of intelligence. Furthermore, the Report establishes that criminal organisations operating in the country take advantage of legal and administrative loopholes.

In terms of the proposed intervention, activities pertinent to providing support to the institutions toward strengthening of cooperation between law enforcement and relevant prosecutors' offices, the Report recognizes this problem and sets clear recommendations in that regard: "Arrangements for practical cooperation between prosecutors' offices and the police are in place, but require structural improvements to guarantee more effective judicial follow-up, prevent procedural delays, and introduce good practices. Ineffective cooperation between police and prosecutors have hindered trials, including a corruption case involving a high-level politician. The quality of reports, the collection, analysis and sharing of data, and capacities of specialised joint teams should be improved. Further efforts should be made on communication, coordination and sharing of information."¹⁰

⁷ <http://propisi.ba/page/akt/xxoPnp3DXAw=>

⁸ [Bosnia and Herzegovina Report 2022 \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁹ Ibid

¹⁰ [Bosnia and Herzegovina Report 2022 \(europa.eu\)](#)

Consultation process with national stakeholders

UNDP and other international partners in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been continuously supporting the national authorities in the country in their endeavors to develop and strengthen capacities in controlling SALW especially through support to the SALW Coordination Board by providing support and assistance in the implementation and enforcement of the relevant legislation, developing strategic documents and implementation of the Roadmap and national SALW Control Strategy. Furthermore, UNDP has been actively involved in their work through regular participation in coordination activities and has maintained regular contacts with all institutions and agencies participating in the work of the SALW Coordination Board. This cooperation has continued throughout the process of developing proposed intervention while proposed activities have been jointly defined and agreed with the SALW Coordination Board.

The proposed intervention seeks to build upon the accomplishments of previous and ongoing project interventions implemented by UNDP Country Office in Bosnia and Herzegovina¹¹ which mainly focused on building policy, institutional and operational frameworks and capacities taking rather conventional state-centric security programming. It seeks to balance the goal of strengthening state institutions and legal frameworks with the imperative of building a security and justice system that meets the needs of the population and gives them entry points for participation. The proposed intervention shall therefore focus on three interrelated areas: further development of local knowledge, peer-to-peer exchanges, and inter-agency learning; facilitation of dialogue between the state and civil society actors, and further implementation of outreach campaigns for the general population and inclusion of gender perspective.

UNDP in Bosnia and Herzegovina has started consultation process with the relevant institutions and agencies in February 2022 at which UNDP conducted an assessment including all relevant national stakeholders in the country. The assessment provided a comprehensive estimate of the current needs and trends in the area of SALW control in Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to identify interventions that would further strengthen arms control and management capabilities of project partners and beneficiaries. This assessment went beyond SALW control. It also defined main security sector challenges in BiH with a proposed set of measures for mitigating those challenges. This has been a participatory assessment which reflected feedback and suggestions from law enforcement agencies at all levels.

Apart from the issues pertinent to institutional capacities, one of the key observations of the assessment was the low level of awareness of law enforcement agencies at the cantonal level and their limited participation in identification of the needs and planning of project interventions within the field. Following the assessment, UNDP established continued communication with all relevant institutions especially those at the local level which are not represented in the SALW Coordination Board (cantonal ministries of interior which have direct legal responsibility for implementation of the relevant law on weapons). Consultations culminated with a formal request from the SALW Coordination Board to all national partners to submit overview of their needs for further implementation of the Roadmap and finally at the meeting of the SALW Coordination Board in February 2023, the needs of the institutions have been duly compiled. The proposed intervention is completely a reflection of the needs nominated by the national stakeholders.

Proposed intervention, project rationale and Contribution to the Roadmap Goals and BiH National SALW Control Strategy

The proposed intervention will focus on three areas whereas each of the areas shall, through set of activities, address different goals of the Roadmap and BiH National SALW Control Strategy.

Under the first area regarding further **institutional capacity development**, operational police cooperation and cooperation between police and prosecutors, the proposed intervention shall focus on Goals 2, 3 and 5 of the Roadmap and Goals 1, 2 and 4 of the BiH National SALW Control Strategy. Attention will be placed on

¹¹ CIAT, HALT, PILLAR+ and DIRC

facilitating formal cooperation between UNDP Country Offices in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia through implementation of joint activities contributing to strengthening of bi-lateral, cross-border cooperation between relevant institutions in two countries. The set of activities within this area of intervention includes procurement of specialized equipment¹², development of digital tools for law enforcement agencies in support of the implementation of relevant SALW legislation, joint exercises, and relevant specialized training. Worth noting is that many of the BiH law enforcement agencies showed their commitment to SOPs developed in projects CIAT and HALT, and nearly 4,000 police and customs officers were trained on these. Furthermore, SOPs have been formally adopted by the BiH Border Police and BiH Customs, while other police agencies de facto incorporated SOPs in their everyday work. The proposal will further consolidate these operational achievements. Also, as previously noted, provision of specialized equipment and accompanying training will contribute to achievement of Goal 3 of the Roadmap (Improved processes, equipment and training of targeted law enforcement agencies) as, according to the Roadmap baseline, there are “insufficient quality and quantity of FAE detection equipment in place - mostly outdated”¹³. It will contribute to achievement of Goal 5 of the Roadmap - Substantially increase number of seized firearms, ammunition and explosives – as the baseline read there are “inadequate detection capacities and equipment”. Finally, it will contribute to the achievement of the Goal 1.2.3 of the National SALW Control Strategy – “Procurement of appropriate equipment needed for the more efficient combatting of the illicit trafficking of arms (contraband detectors, endoscopes, various types of sensors, etc.) in line with the analysis”. Drawing from the previous work and a set of knowledge products developed, more specifically a set of standard operating procedures, the project will aim to institutionalize these and ensure a continuous capacity development of institutions and practitioners through relevant training centers. There are two entity academies based in Sarajevo and Banja Luka, and a police training center in Mostar that the project plans to cooperate with for this purpose. The difference between Sarajevo and Banja Luka academies on one side, and the Mostar training center on the other hand is the agencies they provide training for. While Mostar, as per its legal competences, focuses on training cadets for state level institutions, entity academies provide training for RS Police (Banja Luka) and Federation and cantonal law enforcement agencies (Sarajevo). Integration of SOPs developed within previous projects is needed for both levels of training at all three academies (the first level is for uniform officers starting at the rank of “Police Officer” and the second level for investigators starting at the level of “Junior Inspector”). The developed SOPs will have to be applied by officers regardless of entry rank/level in his/her daily duties, and the planned intervention will ensure relevant knowledge is provided on a continuous basis through all three institutions. Additionally, the project takes into account that academies in Banja Luka and Sarajevo organize both basic and in-service training and as organizational units of RS Ministry of Interior and Federation Ministry of Interior their curricula and training plans are approved by relevant ministers.

Secondly, the Project will focus on **strengthening the strategic approach** to the SALW control which entails additional challenges considering fragmented legal and institutional setup in the country as well as the need for continued coordination between numerous institutions and agencies. In the previous interventions, various working groups have been established with the support of the UNDP implemented project while the feedback from the participants has always been affirmative. Additionally, such activities feed directly into project activities of the OSCE Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina project “Addressing security and safety risks of illegal possession, misuse and trafficking of SALW and their ammunition in Bosnia and Herzegovina”¹⁴ which includes activities pertinent to supporting inter-institutional dialogue and SALW Coordination Board outreach to local authorities and support to monitoring, evaluation and knowledge transfer by SALW Coordination Board on SALW outreach and awareness raising. While OSCE interventions focus mainly on raising awareness within relevant institutions on SALW control, proposed interventions shall build on these activities through promoting continued monitoring of existing tools and regulations

¹² The needs for equipment have come directly from the agencies through the SALW Coordination Board while UNDP has conducted extensive consultations with UNDP SEESAC and UNODC to ensure complementarity of activities and absence of any duplication of efforts.

¹³ Reference: <http://www.seesac.org/f/docs/News-SALW/Roadmap-for-sustainable-solution.pdf>

¹⁴ BiH, OSCE, combatting trafficking of SALW, ammunition and explosives, CA

and identification of areas for potential improvements such as development of additional standard operating procedures, inter-institutional memoranda of understanding, etc. Furthermore, proposed intervention shall, through set of activities, expand the work on SALW control from the State Prosecutor Office to prosecutor offices at entity and cantonal levels in terms of review of relevant legislation, current practices and cooperation with law enforcement agencies.

Finally, the third area of intervention will focus on **gender perspective pertinent to SALW** and on increasing **community engagement and the awareness raising capacities** through, among others, active involvement of civil society organizations. While the gender perspective has been partially addressed in some of the previous project interventions (through project HALT, PILLAR and DIRC), empowering women in the security sector as well as in the Indirect Taxation Authority, including prevention of sexual and gender-based harassment, remains an unfinished matter which needs to enable a greater participation of women in tackling illegal SALW trade. As a part of a joint activity between UNDP Serbia and UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina, a support to peer-exchange among associations of women police officers both in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina will provide a ground for a greater involvement of BiH associations in the upcoming development of new SALW National Strategy 2024-2027. It will also enable a better international cooperation among associations promoting gender equality in male-dominated security sector through exchange of best practices and improvement of internal organizational structures of the associations and their respective mandates through meetings between these associations as well as a joint study trip of associations from Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina to sister association in one of the EU countries. Furthermore, civil society organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina so far have not played any significant role in awareness raising among general population on dangers of illegal possession and use of SALW even though this has been one of the explicit goals of the SALW Control Strategy.¹⁵ Therefore, civil society organizations and non-governmental sector needs to be better capacitated to carry on awareness raising activities among general population on dangers and consequences of possession of illegal SALW and proper and responsible ownership of legal SALW.

2. National Ownership

UNDP has been continuously supporting the national authorities in the country in their endeavors to develop and strengthen capacities in controlling SALW especially through support to the BiH SALW Coordination Board. It provided support and assistance in the implementation and enforcement of the relevant legislation as well as the strategic documents developed and adopted. The SALW Coordination Board encompasses representatives of all relevant institutions in BiH from the national, entity and local levels.

The BiH SALW Coordination Board is comprised of the representatives of the following ministries and agencies:

- Ministry of Security of BiH (MoS)
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of BiH (MoFA)
- Ministry of Defense of BiH (MoD)
- Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BiH (MOFTER)
- Indirect Taxation Agency (ITA)
- State Investigation and Protection Agency – SIPA
- Border Police of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BP BiH)
- Directorate for Coordination of Police Bodies of BiH (DCPB)
- Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior (RS Mol)

¹⁵ https://www.vijeceministara.gov.ba/akti/prijedlozi_zakona/default.aspx?id=35106&langTag=hr-HR, pg.65 "Promote the SALW Control Strategy within the non-governmental sector and promote cooperation with the non-governmental sector and with civil society organizations"

- Federation Ministry of Interior – Federation Police Directorate (FMol)
- BiH Prosecutor Office
- Brčko District Police (BDP)

As one of the key supporters of the BiH SALW Coordination Board, UNDP, along with other international organizations, has been actively supporting its work by regularly participating in the meetings of the Board as well as through providing regular status updates on the implementation of the projects implemented by UNDP.

Understanding that national ownership is crucial for the project's long-term sustainability and effectiveness, UNDP has ensured inclusion of national stakeholders in the project design. As previously mentioned, UNDP initiated this process in 2022 and continuously worked with all relevant national stakeholders in the project design phase, including relevant institutions at all levels and law enforcement agencies ensuring that the project is tailored to the specific needs and priorities of the country. This culminated in the official endorsement to the project, provided through the SALW Coordination Board.

UNDP recognizes the importance of the national coordination and leadership and has been implementing past and ongoing interventions under the overall leadership and guidelines of the SALW Coordination Board. The participating institutions, agencies and training academies will play a key role in ensuring the national ownership of the project.

By focusing on building capacities at the mid-level (operational level) of national institutions responsible for SALW control, including law enforcement agencies, judicial institutions, and customs authorities, whereby significant pool of trainers has been developed during the past and ongoing interventions, the project will continue implementation of proposed intervention in an inclusive manner allowing for peer-to-peer learning and exchanges rather than providing external expertise. This approach will allow not only institutionalization of project results in individual agencies but also inter-agency cooperation through organization of joint activities directly contributing to operational cooperation during investigations of SALW related crimes.

Finally, during implementation of the proposed intervention, UNDP will propose to the national partners implementation of sustainability planning from the outset, with a focus on ensuring that the project's outputs and outcomes are sustained beyond the project period. This will involve working with national institutions to develop sustainability plans and ensuring that the necessary structures and capacities are in place to continue SALW control efforts after the project has ended.

3. Project Objective and Theory of Change

The primary objective of Project LEAD is to enhance the capacity and engagement of relevant national institutions and civil society in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as strengthen inter-agency and cross-border collaboration to advance the implementation of the National SALW Control Strategy and the Roadmap.

The Project LEAD builds on past and ongoing interventions. It aims to achieve its objective through a series of targeted activities that will provide technical assistance and foster inter-agency and bi-lateral cross-border cooperation. An inclusive approach to civil society organizations will be ensured, with duly integrated gender and human rights perspectives. The expected result is a comprehensive strengthening of key stakeholders in the SALW control field, leading to increased ownership and sustainability.

Proposed intervention aims to strengthen the law enforcement agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina through several activities, including procurement of specialized detection equipment, enhancing ballistic capacities, and digitizing SALW processes in the cantonal police agencies, Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior, and Brčko District Police. The project also involves providing specialized training for police

agencies and prosecutors' offices and organizing joint exercises among law enforcement agencies with active participation and support from relevant prosecutors' offices at all levels in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Additionally, the project seeks to ensure continuity of cooperation on strategic and operational levels among relevant ministries and agencies which should result in improvement and better understanding of each agency's/ministry's role in SALW-related issues (e.g. an updated Memorandum of Understanding and/or joint Standard Operating Procedures between the Indirect Taxation Authority of BiH (BiH Customs) and the Border Police). Gender mainstreaming in SALW control will be further promoted through a series of workshops on gender equality for BiH Customs employees and other activities targeting the negative impact of both legal and illegal SALW on women, young men, children, and families. The project will also engage civil society organizations (CSOs) and associations of women police officials in BiH to raise awareness of the dangers of illegal possession of SALW and the misuse of legal SALW, ensuring reach to all segments of society.

Expected Results

Outcome 1: Enhanced security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Western Balkans Region through comprehensive capacity-enhancement, cooperation and gender mainstreaming within relevant institutions involved in the SALW control field.

Result/Output 1.1: Enhanced operational capacities of law enforcement agencies to better fight illicit SALW trafficking through targeted assistance to 14 police agencies, BiH Customs and prosecutors' offices.

Activity 1.1.1 – Provision of specialized equipment for police agencies in line with the needs identified through the BiH SALW Coordination Board

Previous and ongoing interventions have provided vital support to law enforcement agencies in Bosnia and Herzegovina through the provision of specialized equipment and materials. These efforts have led to enhanced operational capacities and raised awareness among law enforcement officers and investigators about the importance of addressing the threats posed by illegal SALW. To ensure the effectiveness of the equipment provided, UNDP has maintained regular communication with end-users, particularly those with large numbers of officers and areas of responsibility, such as the Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior, Sarajevo, Zenica, and Tuzla cantonal law enforcement agencies. This communication has shown that the quality of provided equipment is satisfactory, the training for equipment use is sufficient, and that the equipment has become a routine part of their day-to-day activities.

Lessons learned from previous interventions have highlighted some challenges in properly identifying all needs and factoring in key criteria during planning and development. However, the strengthening and maturing of the BiH SALW Coordination Board during the previous period has resulted in improved coordination and communication among institutions towards SALW control initiatives, which has led to a better understanding of both needs and opportunities for institutional improvement within the security sector. This has been clearly illustrated through provision of an extensive list of the needs of all agencies and institutions which has been shared with all implementors at the BiH SALW Coordination Board meeting held in February 2023. In developing the project, careful consideration was given to the findings of the Regional Needs Assessment of Criminal Police conducted by UNDP SEESAC and the needs identified by UNODC through their relevant assessments. Furthermore, UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina meticulously streamlined the requests and cross-checked them with equipment donated under previous projects, including CIAT and HALT. Through this activity, the Project aims to address the remaining needs and procure specialized equipment identified in consultation with partner police agencies while keeping BiH SALW Coordination Board duly informed. Despite previous interventions, many agencies still lack sufficient quality and quantity of equipment, particularly at the cantonal and entity level. To ensure complementarity and maximize the impact of available funding, UNDP has also consulted with UNODC and UNDP SEESAC during the development of this intervention. The Project will procure specialized police

equipment, such as contraband detectors, videoscopes, handheld metal detectors, CSI kits (including digital cameras), detectors for explosives and narcotics, and more. This activity will contribute to the implementation of Goal 3 of the Roadmap by improving processes, equipment, and training for targeted law enforcement agencies. Additionally, this activity will contribute to the implementation of Goal 5 of the Roadmap, which seeks to substantially increase the number of seized firearms, ammunition, and explosives, as there are still inadequate detection capacities within law enforcement agencies. The Project will also provide necessary training on the use of the equipment as required.

Timeframe: Identification of a final list of equipment to be procured shall be done in close coordination with partner police agencies by the end of Q4 2023, while the procurement process shall be conducted in 2024 aiming to complete procurement by the end of Q4 2024.

Activity 1.1.2 – Support to ballistic laboratories in Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska and operational cooperation with ballistic laboratories from neighbouring countries

Sub-activity 1.1.2.1 – Support to operational cooperation between ballistics laboratories from BiH and Serbia (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)

Cooperation between ballistic laboratories from Bosnia and Herzegovina, including Agency for Forensic and Expert Examinations and entity ballistics laboratories (Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska) with the ballistic laboratory from Serbia shall also be enhanced aiming to share knowledge, best practices and information in this field. Sharing information and knowledge is essential for developing forensics, among others, for ballistic examinations. In addition to the strategic level, which SEESAC already supports through various initiatives, such cooperation is needed on the operational level between the ballistic experts and other staff who work daily on real cases, especially when it includes a cross-border component. UNDP Serbia has had a longstanding cooperation and provided support to Serbian ballistic experts, whereby it has been recognized that information sharing and meetings in the ballistic area on the operational level could bring more efficient and effective results in the police work and cases which are under implementation and daily work.

This activity aims to facilitate bi-annual meetings, totaling four meetings, where four ballistic experts from each jurisdiction come together in different ballistic laboratories. BiH, particularly the Federation Police Directorate, already has a laboratory in Sarajevo with appropriate accreditations for dactyloscopy and ballistics examination. The proposed mutual meetings could offer an opportunity to extend accreditation scopes and promote knowledge sharing among the participating laboratories.

The first meeting can be organized in Sarajevo, showcasing the recently accredited laboratory (Federation Police Directorate's laboratory received accreditation in 2021) as an example of best practices. By exchanging information among the laboratories of the two participating jurisdictions, BiH's laboratories can adopt a similar model for equipping their own facilities. Additionally, Serbian ballistic experts can benefit from observing the expertise of their BiH colleagues and implementing it in their daily work, incorporating know-how and best practices from the accredited lab in Sarajevo. The project will strive to have a gender balanced participation in these exchanges, as feasible.

The results and expected effects of this activity will be presented at regional experts' forums established by UNDP SEESAC, such as the South East Europe Firearms Experts Network (SEEFEN). These forums exemplify good cross-border cooperation and the exchange of best practices. Moreover, they ensure the absence of duplication of efforts and maximize the impact of the project interventions.

This Sub-activity will contribute to the implementation of the Goal 1 of the Roadmap in light of exchange of good practices ensured for *inter alia* forensic examiners while it will also contribute to the implementation of Goal 2 of the Roadmap by ensuring exchange of operational and strategic information as there is lack of agreed procedure for an exchange of ballistics' information.

Sub-activity 1.1.2.2 – Provision of specialized ballistic equipment for ballistic laboratories in Bosnia and Herzegovina

There are currently three ballistic laboratories in BiH, two with long-standing tradition in entities of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska while the third laboratory has been established within the Agency for Forensic Examinations at the national level which currently lacks both specialized equipment and trained staff to conduct ballistics examinations. During the previous project interventions, UNDP in BiH provided limited support to two entity forensic laboratories, mostly in terms of fostering cooperation between Border Police, State Prosecutor's Office and forensic laboratories. Ballistics examiners from these two laboratories also participated in development of the SALW Identification Tool which has been developed and provided to the law enforcement agencies throughout the country within the Countering Illicit Arms Trafficking Project funded through the Funding Window. Working with the laboratories, it has been concluded that most of the specialized equipment has been outdated emphasizing the need for procurement of comparative microscopes, snails, OCF lockers, gunsmith tables, etc. Within this activity, the Project will procure this specialized equipment, excluding comparative microscopes which will be procured and provided to the laboratories through UNDP SEESAC interventions. The final list of equipment to be procured will be established in coordination with the laboratories, BiH SALW Coordination Board and other implementers to avoid any duplication of efforts. While establishing the specific needs, the Project Team will also use assessments conducted by the UNDP Serbia during their past project interventions supporting ballistics laboratories in Serbia to inform decision-making.

This sub-activity will contribute to fulfilment of the Goal 1 of the Roadmap in order to “ensure standardization of procedures and practices in the area of arms control and FAE investigations”. In addition, the sub-activity will directly contribute to implementation of BiH SALW Strategy's Goal 1.3.1. aimed at equipping the forensic laboratories in BiH and ensure training for staff on the use of equipment.

Timeframe: By the end of Q4 2023, the project team will identify the equipment to be procured for the laboratories while the equipment should be procured and delivered to laboratories by the end of 2024.

Activity 1.1.3 – Cross-border operational collaboration among the arson-explosion-accident (AEA) experts (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)

The overall support provided by multiple implementers, including UNDP SEESAC, UNDP country offices, OSCE, and UNODC, aims at capacity building, equipping, and exchanging best practices within national institutions in the Western Balkans. These efforts are primarily channeled through experts' forums, such as SEEFEN, facilitating effective cooperation and knowledge sharing. Apart from support to the ballistics experts' exchanges at the operational level, it is essential to foster collaboration between arson-explosion-accident (AEA) experts and other staff involved in real cases, especially those with cross-border elements. Drawing from years of experience with AEA experts, it has become evident that enhanced information sharing and meetings within this specific area can significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of police work and ongoing cases. This activity proposes bringing together four AEA experts annually from each jurisdiction in BiH (2 from FBiH and two from RS) and Serbia (totaling 8 experts in two meetings) to engage in productive discussions at different explosive investigation units. The project will strive to have a gender balanced participation in these exchanges, as feasible. These mutual meetings offer an opportunity to extend accreditation scopes and share valuable experiences throughout the process. Furthermore, the activity allows for mutual learning and adoption of successful practices. Based on lessons learned and post-blast trainings in Serbian projects, Bosnia and Herzegovina can utilize a similar training model, while Serbian colleagues can benefit from best practices observed in projects implemented through Funding Windows in BiH, enhancing their knowledge and skills. The results of this activity will be presented at a regional meeting organized for Roadmap stakeholders, in coordination with SEESAC and donors, ensuring a cohesive approach and preventing overlapping of regional activities.

Activity 1.1.4 – Enhancing digital capacities and resources of the Law Enforcement Agencies

In addition to providing support to national stakeholders in terms of equipment, training, and internal and bilateral cooperation, past and ongoing interventions have included developing and implementing digital tools such as the Database of Transport Licenses for the Ministry of Security of BiH, the SALW Identification Tool for Border Police, and ongoing work on developing the Database for Export/Import Licenses for the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of BiH. One of the key activities of the ongoing UNDP intervention – Digitalization and Institutional and Regional Cooperation Project – has been to assess the institutional capacities of all law enforcement agencies to identify their specific digitalization needs arising from the relevant legislation regulating SALW. The assessment included 10 cantonal law enforcement agencies, Brčko District Police, and Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior responsible for keeping records on legally issued firearms licenses in line with relevant legislation in BiH as well as Federation Police Directorate.

The assessment conducted evaluated the current state of IT capacities for maintaining electronic databases related to SALW, including record-keeping methods and associated data. It also identified the technical requirements of institutions regarding IT/software solutions, aiming to create or improve systems in line with relevant laws. Initial findings revealed that the Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior has internal digital capacities with software and records that largely meet the needs for implementing the Law on the Acquisition, Possession, and Carrying of Arms and Ammunition. However, other agencies indicated modest and insufficient IT capacities for maintaining electronic databases.

While law enforcement agencies possess some electronic records pertaining to the implementation of the law on the acquisition, possession, and carrying of weapons and ammunition, there is a need for further improvement. Notably, records of confiscated weapons are only kept in hard copies/paper format and lack electronic versions.

The recommendations from the assessment conducted by the UNDP in BiH are as follows:

1. Improve the software functionality of the common electronic records of the cantonal ministries of interior concerning the enforcement of the law on the acquisition, possession, and carrying of weapons and ammunition.
2. Establish electronic records and related applications for legally issued weapons as well as confiscated weapons and ammunition in the relevant law enforcement agencies (LEAs) in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including items confiscated through various procedures.
3. Create separate electronic records for intelligence data on weapons and ammunition in the relevant LEAs in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
4. Enhance the data exchange system from electronic records of police bodies and prosecutor's offices by incorporating new electronic records on weapons and ammunition.
5. Improve hardware capacities of the relevant LEAs by procuring necessary IT equipment for data backup and enhancing existing technical capacities at locations for data entry on weapons.

Therefore, the aim of this activity is to further develop digital tools and software based on the identified needs, with a focus on standardization to facilitate easier information exchange and reporting. The proposed standardization would also establish a foundation for digital connectivity and exchanges between agencies if such a decision is reached at the political level in the future. The focus will be on implementing the assessment recommendations, taking into account the available funding resources and in collaboration with other international partners that support the digital tools development, such as the OSCE, thus achieving complementarity and higher impact. To the extent possible, this activity will ensure that any future data collection provides sex-disaggregated data when applicable.

Timeframe: By the end of Q1 2024, an expert will be identified by UNDP BiH to prepare a tender documentation for procurement of an appropriate software to be installed in police agencies. Procurement, testing phase and instalment of the software will be completed by the end of the project.

Activity 1.1.5 – Strengthening cooperation between Prosecutors and Law Enforcement Agencies through joint exercises

UNDP BiH has developed structured form of information exchange and training between the law enforcement agencies and prosecutors' offices as part of its previously implemented CIAT and HALT Projects. The need for continuation of such training has been identified and requested by the national institutions based on formal feedback from the participating institutions and evaluations by the participants. The activity is being implemented in complementary efforts with the support provided by UNODC. UNDP's focus in this activity is on the application of SALW Detection SOPs developed during previous project interventions.

The project will continue to organize joint exercises among law enforcement agencies and prosecutors to improve operational cooperation and coordination in preventing illegal small arms and light weapons trafficking. These exercises will test the standard operating procedures adopted and utilized under previous project interventions, test capabilities of all law enforcement agencies in BiH and demonstrate the use of donated equipment and coordination of information among agencies. Participants will include young professionals and inspectors, both women and men, from law enforcement agencies and customs officers who potentially face illegal SALW trade, as well as representatives of cantonal prosecutor's offices and RS regional prosecutor's offices. With due consideration that women officials from respective institutions participated in these types of joint exercises in low numbers, the project will continue to encourage nomination of women police and customs officials in the upcoming exercises. The exercises will also involve international joint exercises among police and customs agencies in BiH with police and customs agencies from Serbia and Montenegro, with prosecutors from all countries present. These exercises will facilitate peer-to-peer exchange of information and best practices. This activity will contribute to the implementation of the Goal 3 of the Roadmap through improved processes, equipment, and training for targeted law enforcement units and strengthening existing bilateral, regional, and international mechanisms to counter trafficking of firearms. Additionally, this activity will directly contribute to sustainability of the project results as described in the section 4 of this proposal.

Timeframe: Up to four (4) joint exercises involving law enforcement agencies from BiH shall be organized starting with two (2) exercises in 2024 and another two (2) exercises in 2025. Up to four (4) international joint exercises shall take place two (2) exercises in 2024 two (2) exercises and 2025.

Activity 1.1.6 – Knowledge transfer and integration of knowledge products into relevant training and education institutions

The project aims to institutionalize the knowledge and achievements from previous interventions by involving relevant training and educational institutions. Specifically, the project will collaborate with police academies to integrate the developed standard operating procedures (SOPs) and knowledge on the use of donated equipment into their basic training programs.

The project team will initiate activities with entity ministries of interior and the Ministry of Security to roll out the plan of integration of SOPs into training modules at all three police training institutions. This approach aims to ensure the sustainability and continuity of the project's interventions.

In addition, this activity will involve preparing and adapting all knowledge products from past, ongoing, and current interventions for future use by training institutions. This primarily applies to majority of SOPs that were developed under previous projects, including SOPs on: Risk Analysis, Weapons Tracing, Data Collection, Investigations, and Extraordinary Situation Management. The project will also provide appropriate knowledge transfer from the pool of experts developed within past interventions to

trainers/educators at the academies through organizing train-the-trainer sessions and joint exercises that include relevant staff of these education institutions.

Timeframe: During Q1 2024 the Project will organize review of all knowledge products developed within UNDP projects preparing translation to local languages and adopting to the needs of specific education institutions. During the same time period, Q1 2024, the project will organize one meeting including representatives of three police academies and trainers from law enforcement agencies with the aim to review the work and identify the areas of interest for education purposes. During 2024, the project will organize planned meetings and trainings as per the calendar that will be agreed with representatives of the participating agencies and institutions. Additionally, the project will organize in 2024 up to two meetings including relevant university programs dealing with security and up to 4 lectures for university students on the topics pertinent to SALW. During Q1 2025, the project will organize additional 4 iterations of the lectures for university students. By the end of Q3 2024, the project will have all knowledge products ready for distribution to relevant agencies and institutions.

Activity 1.1.7 – Support to the law enforcement agencies and prosecutor’s offices in improving operational cooperation and quality of SALW related investigation through specialized trainings.

Mindful of the complementary support provided by SEESAC and UNODC to the BiH prosecutor’s office, the project will offer specialized training and technical support that focusses on operational cooperation among law enforcement agencies, ensuring quality and integrity of investigations. Based on explicit request from the State Prosecutor’s Office and law enforcement agencies, the activity will aim to organize specialized trainings on investigative techniques, report writing, collection of evidence and overall cooperation during investigations between investigators and prosecutors. To this end, and given the underrepresentation of women, the project will actively seek to ensure balanced participation of women and men in capacity building activities to the extent possible.

Result/Output 1.2: Strengthened strategic exchange and cooperation between state level agencies, prosecutor’s offices and relevant ministries to better fight illicit SALW trafficking.

Activity 1.2.1 – Enhancing cooperation and communication among national stakeholders to advance key strategic documents and policies.

This activity aims to promote communication among relevant national stakeholders enhancing strategic approach and contributing to implementation of the key strategic documents. The current security system in BiH is fragmented, and coordination mechanisms are often ad hoc, relying on personal relationships between officers. Peer-to-peer and in-person exchange and cooperation proved to be irreplaceable method of cooperation on SALW issues among partner agencies, which in BiH bears even more importance given fragile political situation, complex legal framework and fragmented security sector within which law enforcement agencies operate. This activity builds upon the achievements of previous projects and aims to further formalize cooperation among relevant institutions responsible for preventing illegal SALW trade, including the State Investigation and Protection Agency, Border Police, and Indirect Taxation Authority, as well as relevant ministries dealing with legal SALW trade.

UNDP will facilitate several meetings among these institutions, which will focus on developing new or amending existing memoranda of understanding and/or standard operating procedures. One concrete example is improvement of existing MoU between the BiH Customs and Border Police, which was identified by respective focal points as one of the issues to be resolved in the coming period. The goal is to clarify legal and operational issues existing between the institutions and to harmonize their field operations to more efficiently prevent, detect, and prosecute illicit SALW trafficking. The activity will also identify gaps and discrepancies in laws and internal regulations and propose ways to correct those inconsistencies.

The concrete outcomes of these activities will be reported to the institutions' management and submitted for approval or endorsement as appropriate. By strengthening the national, and consequently regional and international mechanism and encouraging new forms of good practice to counter trafficking of firearms, this activity contributes to the implementation of Goal 3 of the Roadmap.

Timeframe: This activity includes organization of up to three meetings in 2024 and may include support in organization of regular meetings of the SALW Coordination Board or other strategic meetings in the country which may contribute to promotion and implementation of the SALW related activities such as coordination meetings of cantonal police commissioners and Federation Police Director.

Activity 1.2.2 – Strengthening the exchange and transfer of good practices in prosecuting illicit SALW trafficking

To enhance the effectiveness of prosecuting illicit SALW trafficking in BiH, this activity will focus on supporting strategic exchange among the BiH Prosecutor's Office and relevant law enforcement agencies. Due to inconsistencies in the definition of illegal SALW trade across criminal procedure codes, the project will aim to establish a forum for sharing experiences and analyzing the implementation of legal provisions to date. This will include review of established practices to ensure uniformity in the day-to-day investigative work and facilitate easier preparation and raising of indictments by prosecutors from different jurisdictions. The activity will be complementary to the support and exchange platforms provided by UNODC and SEESAC on enhancing criminal justice response to illicit arms trafficking.

To achieve this, meetings and accompanying workshops will be organized with representatives from all jurisdictions. This activity will contribute to the implementation of Goal 3 of the Roadmap by addressing the low numbers of prosecutions, indictments, and sentencing of misuse and trafficking of firearms and explosives as indicated in the baseline.

Timeframe: In Q1 2024, the Project will foster organization of one meeting in Republika Srpska which will include regional prosecutors and representatives of the State Prosecutors' Office and law enforcement agencies. In Q2 2024, the Project will foster organization of one meeting in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina including cantonal prosecutor's offices. The Project will also foster follow up workshop drawing from strategic exchanges including cantonal prosecutors and regional prosecutors from Republika Srpska in Q4 2024.

Result/Output 1.3 Raised awareness and community engagement through countrywide campaigns, outreach activities and advocacy addressing the negative impact and threats posed by illicit SALW to general public, including groups at risk (women, children, young men)

Activity 1.3.1 – Supporting coordination body in charge of implementation of the Law on Gender Equality and SALW Control Strategy

The aim of the activity is to support the coordination body responsible for implementing the Law on Gender Equality by placing an emphasis on supporting the advancement of women police officers within police agencies and greater engagement of women officers on decision-making regarding FAE-related crime and misuse. The activity recognizes the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women in law enforcement, as well as the need for the coordination body to effectively implement gender mainstreaming principles in their work by supporting strengthening of the institutional mechanisms which will result in an increased participation of women in those areas where they are traditionally under-represented, such as SALW Control. The Coordination Board, operating within the Ministry of Security, is responsible for the implementation of the BiH Law on Gender Equality within the security sector. Established in 2020, during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, its primary objective is to develop mechanisms and instruments for mainstreaming gender equality in the security sector. As a relatively new entity, the Coordination Board is still in its early stages of functioning. This activity will complement the

support previously provided to two associations of women police officers, which do not possess the same formal institutionalization as the coordination body. Offering assistance to the Coordination Board aims at enhancing visibility and significance of its activities, ultimately increasing its importance and paving the way for the institutional sustainability of the project's results even after its completion.

The activity will take into account the specific challenges faced by women in relation to the use and proliferation of firearms. The activity will therefore seek to promote the participation and leadership of women in the law enforcement sector, with a view to ensuring that they are adequately represented and equipped to effectively address issues related to SALW.

To achieve its objectives, the activity will involve the provision of technical assistance and capacity building to the coordination body responsible for implementing the Law on Gender Equality, gender focal points within state-level law enforcement agencies as well as to foster involvement and active participation of the BiH Gender Equality Agency. This will include support for the development of policies, procedures and guidelines that promote gender equality and the advancement of women within the police force.

The activity will also include awareness-raising campaigns and advocacy efforts aimed at promoting the importance of gender equality and the role of women in law enforcement. This will involve engaging with a wide range of stakeholders and decision-makers in the security sector who are nearly all males, including civil society organizations, the media, and community leaders, to build support for gender equality and to promote the empowerment of women in the law enforcement sector through *inter alia* "he for she" approach.

Timeframe: In Q4 2023, the Project will convene the first meeting of the coordination body to discuss their past efforts and develop clear vision of the future activities that may be supported through the project. In Q2 2024, the project will support organization of the Gender Workshop with inclusion of relevant stakeholders participating in similar workshops organized for the BiH Customs. Additionally, the project will, during Q3 2024, organize training of the coordination body and gender focal points for their participation in awareness raising activities.

Activity 1.3.2 – Joining Forces for a Safer Country: Strengthening the Role of Civil Society in Awareness Raising and Outreach Efforts

Experience with implementing projects addressing SALW in BiH has shown that civil society organizations (CSOs) have had limited involvement in this field, often carrying out individual interventions without systemic cooperation with relevant authorities. The aim of this activity is to foster the inclusion of CSOs and build partnerships with relevant government institutions to jointly tackle the issue of illegal SALW possession, responsible ownership, and the negative effects of SALW on groups at risk such as youth, women, and children. Furthermore, supported CSOs will be equipped to conduct extensive analysis on social phenomena such as femicide, suicides, and overall increasing violence.

Strengthening cooperation with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) is a crucial objective outlined in the national SALW Control Strategy and its Action Plan, specifically highlighted in Activity 4.1.3. This activity aims to promote the Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Strategy within the non-governmental sector and foster collaboration with CSOs. CSOs play a vital role in complementing governmental efforts in combating the illicit spread of small arms and light weapons and promoting responsible ownership of legal SALW. By leveraging their expertise and grassroots presence, CSOs can significantly contribute to raising awareness about the negative impacts of illegal SALW and the importance of responsible ownership of legal firearms. Through their outreach efforts, they can engage communities, advocate for policy changes, and foster a culture of responsible firearm use. Additionally, CSOs can provide valuable insights and perspectives from the civil society level, ensuring that the Roadmap addresses the real needs and concerns of the communities affected by SALW proliferation. Their participation in awareness-raising activities, advocacy campaigns, and policy discussions can enhance the Roadmap's effectiveness and

sustainability. Ultimately, by strengthening cooperation with CSOs, the project will foster a multi-stakeholder approach that maximizes the Roadmap's effectiveness in curbing illicit SALW proliferation and promoting responsible firearm ownership.

By providing financial support to organizations with the necessary capacity to implement complex projects, this activity will improve the environment for civil society in BiH, as recommended in the latest EU report on the country. The selected CSO projects will focus on specific target groups that have the potential to amplify the impact of the initiatives, such as journalists, organizations advocating gender equality, youth and young CSO activists, social sciences students and young professionals, young political party activists or leaders, and where possible, local community-level actors that can make a specific impact in their own localities. This approach will lay the groundwork for longer-term impact on broader segments of society. The project will prioritize the engagement of young women and men in program interventions to enhance inclusive, sustainable solutions on the ground. This activity will contribute to the implementation of Goal 4 of the Roadmap by developing sustainable partnerships to strengthen advocacy, reinforce outreach, and reach messaging multipliers, as well as increasing awareness among the general population, both women and men, of the dangers of the misuse, illicit possession, and trafficking of SALW.

Selection criteria

The following **types of activities** will be eligible for sub-granting:

- Activities related to the collection and analysis of data, including baseline studies, needs assessments, and surveys related to negative impacts of illegal SALW and responsible ownership of legal SALW.
- Activities that aim to promote public awareness and understanding of the risks associated with SALW, including public events, outreach campaigns, and media campaigns.
- Activities focused on enhancing the capacity of civil society organizations and other stakeholders to prevent and address the impact of SALW, including training, mentoring, and skills-building.
- Activities focusing on the local levels as well as those aiming at enhancing cooperation with the institutions relevant to SALW control.
- Activities that provide direct support to victims of SALW violence, including medical and psychosocial support, livelihoods support, and legal assistance.
- Activities aimed at strengthening policy and legal frameworks related to SALW, including advocacy for policy reform and engagement with government authorities and other stakeholders.
- Activities focused on monitoring and evaluating the impact of interventions related to SALW, including data collection, analysis, and reporting.

The selection of the proposal will be made **based on the following criteria**:

- **Relevance:** The proposed activities should align with the project objectives, be relevant to the local context, and address a specific need related to SALW.
- **Capacity:** The organization should demonstrate the capacity and expertise to successfully implement the proposed activities, including the ability to manage funds and implement the activities in a timely and effective manner.
- **Sustainability:** The proposed activities should have a sustainable impact beyond the project duration, such as building capacity, creating partnerships, or fostering community ownership.
- **Innovation:** The proposed activities should bring new ideas or approaches to addressing SALW issues, demonstrate creativity, and have the potential for replication or scalability.
- **Collaboration:** The organization should demonstrate willingness and ability to collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including government entities, civil society organizations, and communities.

- Gender equality: The proposed activities should incorporate and address the aspect of gender equality as well as impacts of the use and the possession of both illegal and legal SALW vis-à-vis each gender.
- Cost-effectiveness: The proposed activities should be cost-effective, with a clear budget and justification for expenses, and demonstrate value for money.

Eligible entities for receiving grants:

- associations gathering victims and survivors of domestic violence and their families which have as their goal protection and promotion of rights and interests of these groups (registered in an appropriate legal form);
- civil society organizations and other non-profit entities, including professional associations, engaged in promotion and protection of victims and their rights, human rights, provision of psychosocial support, free legal aid;
- academic, research and scientific institutions in the area of community security.

Grant applications will be submitted to UNDP BiH by the single applicant, or the lead applicant in case of a consortium. Grant Selection Committee that will be set up at the level of the UNDP Country Office in BiH office will make final selection of applications to be financed through the sub-granting scheme based on the principle of compliance with selection criteria and quality. For proposals of equal quality, the Committee may take into consideration also criteria of fair territorial distribution and representation.

Total amount allocated for the duration of the project: \$200,000.

- Minimum amount per grant: \$15,000
- Maximum amount per grant: \$50,000

There will be **two public calls**: first, in Q1 2024 for disbursing an estimated \$140,000, and second, in Q3 2024 for disbursing estimated \$60,000.

The same entity may apply for and receive the grant both in the first and the second call.

Activity 1.3.3 – Support to associations of women police officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina through cross-border cooperation (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)

Associations of women police officials operating in BiH have played a significant role as pioneers in promoting the rights of women police officials in terms of having equal labor rights and opportunities in police agencies in BiH. There are two associations existing in BiH - Association “Network of Women Police Officials” encompassing female police officials from all police agencies at all levels in BiH, except for the Republika Srpska Ministry of Interior, and RS Ministry of Interior Women Police Officials Network that gathers women police officials employed in the RS Ministry of Interior. Through one of the previous project interventions, UNDP BiH recognized the importance and the results of these two associations by providing relevant trainings to their members for project writing/development as well as by awarding small scale grants for their activities related to SALW through projects PILLAR+ and DIRC respectively. This project intends to further support the work and activities of these two associations from BiH through cross-border collaboration and peer-exchange with the respective counterpart in Serbia, the “Association of Women in Police of Republic of Serbia”. One of the activities will include enhancing capacities for meaningful participation in the development of SALW national strategies and action plans for the effective incorporation of a gender perspective into SALW policies. Another activity will focus on exchange of best practices and experiences between associations themselves and their further capacity development in terms of their mandates, organizational structure and potential improvement of legal regulations guiding the work of these associations. Finally, the project will organize a study visit for these associations to one of the women police official association existing and operating in EU country in order to have first-hand

insight into their work and organization, primarily in terms of involvement and active participation of the women police official association on SALW control issues in the host country.

Timeframe: Up to four meetings between associations of women police officials from BiH and Serbia will be organized, two in BiH and two in Serbia, in 2024. Up to 100 participants in total will have participated in these meetings, with up to 25 in each meeting. Furthermore, one study trip for up to 7 members from each association will be organized for associations from BiH and Serbia to “sister” organization in one of the EU countries in 2025.

Theory of Change

Illegal small arms and light weapons (SALW) continue to pose a serious threat in BiH and the wider region, yet this issue is often disregarded and minimized by society. The recent tragic events of mass-shootings in BiH in August 2023 as well as in Serbia in May 2023 have highlighted the urgent need for all stakeholders - including law enforcement, governments, judiciary, and the general population - to pay undivided attention to the possession of legal and illegal SALW.

BiH faces a significant challenge with around 324,000¹⁶ registered SALW in 2021, within a population of roughly 3,000,000 people. The country's fragmented security system, with 12 different laws regulating SALW possession, of which only one is close to being fully harmonized with relevant EU legislation¹⁷, exacerbates this challenge. When combined with estimates that suggest one in five households in BiH possess illegal SALW¹⁸ and that the number of firearms incidents in the country amounted to 279 in the period October 2022 – March 2023¹⁹, the security threat posed by SALW is of grave concern.

Despite some positive developments in recent years, the threat posed by SALW is still realistic and should not be underestimated or minimized. This proposed intervention seeks to minimize such threats through a series of activities, building on previous project interventions. While it may not eliminate all risks and threats related to SALW, it will undoubtedly lead to a significant decrease and contribute to a safer environment in the country.

The overall, long-term objective in the area of SALW control is to enhance security in BiH and the Western Balkans region through comprehensive capacitation, cooperation and gender mainstreaming within relevant institutions involved in the SALW control field. This will be achieved through continued development, fostered establishment of the efficient and effective SALW control system in BiH which would entail full functionality of all relevant stakeholders and their efficient coordination of the efforts in this field. This further entails continued monitoring of developments in the field by the decision makers and their prompt reactions in terms of development of relevant legal and strategic documents to compliment the work at the operational levels. Furthermore, the work of the law enforcement agencies will be twofold: working proactively through engagement with relevant community groups and civil society organizations to address all aspects of both legal and illegal SALW as well as to, through investigative work, identify and prevent individuals and organized groups engaging in illegal SALW trafficking. Finally, one of the legacies of cooperation between law enforcement and judiciary will be a functional system in terms of processing SALW related crimes and effectively prosecuting such crimes contributing to overall reduction of illegal activities pertinent to SALW.

The country has already demonstrated commitment toward this objective by engaging in regional initiatives (Roadmap) and developing and enacting strategic documents outlining the key areas of

¹⁶ According to SALW Coordination Board as carried in some media - <https://www.slobodnaevropa.org/a/ilegalno-oruzje-bih/32227035.html>

¹⁷ [Bosnia and Herzegovina Report 2022.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#), pg. 40.

¹⁸ <https://radiosarajevo.ba/vijesti/bosna-i-hercegovina/koliko-oruzja-posjeduju-gradani-u-bih-statistika-je-porazavajuca/495023>

¹⁹ <https://www.seesac.org/f/docs/Armed-Violence/Quarterly-Regional-Armed-Violence-Monitor-Oct-Dec-2022.pdf>, and https://www.seesac.org/f/docs/quarterly-armed-violence-monitors_1/Regional-Armed-Violence-Monitor-Q1-2023.pdf

improvement toward efficient SALW control in the country. The past project interventions have contributed to strengthening of the strategic functions through support to the SALW Coordination Board and relevant ministries at all levels. Also, through provision of support to the law enforcement agencies as well as to BiH Customs, the level of preparedness has been raised in terms of development and institutionalization of standard operating procedures for detection of SALW and investigation of SALW related crimes, provision of specialized detection equipment and pertinent training for over 4,000 law enforcement and customs officers. The level of awareness of threats and negative impacts of both legal and illegal SALW has been raised through continued awareness raising activities implemented countrywide by the law enforcement agencies. The work toward efficient bi-lateral and regional cooperation among customs and law enforcement agencies has been initiated through organization of initial meetings with relevant institutions of the neighboring countries.

If further support to enhancing capacities of police agencies to better fight illicit SALW trafficking through targeted assistance to 14 police agencies, BiH Customs and prosecutors' offices is provided then this operational level will be capacitated to work in all areas needed for efficient SALW Control. It will proactively bring the focus on prevention of negative impacts of SALW on population and it will develop strong partnerships with community groups and civil society organizations contributing to overall increase of citizens' trust in institutions. If the law enforcement agencies are further equipped with advance, specialized detection equipment, trained for its use and strengthened through further development of investigative support functions (ballistics), their level of preparedness to tackle individuals and organized groups will be significantly enhanced. If relevant staff in the law enforcement agencies are enabled to establish operational cooperation with their peers in the region, their efficiency will be increased through operational exchanges, exchange of good practices ultimately increasing detection and investigative capacities involving cross-border and regional elements of SALW related crimes. If the use of digital tools is increased through further development of required software based on the identified needs, with a focus on standardization to facilitate easier information exchange and reporting, it will establish a foundation for digital connectivity and exchanges between agencies contributing to efficiency of the law enforcement agencies through established transparency and timely exchange of relevant information. If good practices established within the law enforcement agencies are properly integrated into in-service and basic trainings, the level of knowledge and skills in SALW control of the incoming staff will be significantly raised ensuring sustainability of the efforts and continuous addressing of the SALW related issues.

Inclusion of the civil society organizations in the work of the government institutions in a participatory manner to jointly tackle the issue of illegal SALW possession, responsible ownership, and the negative effects of SALW on groups at risk, such as youth, women, and children is of great importance. This will promote dialogue and collaboration between governments, civil society, and citizens to foster trust, participation and it will contribute to ensuring governments are responsive to the needs of their people. Ultimately, this will contribute to raised awareness of the general population regarding negative effects of SALW.

Finally, if gender and human rights perspectives are duly incorporated into the work of the relevant government institutions, this will strengthen the impact of the institutional efforts in the SALW control field through both creation of enabling environment and due consideration of the needs of relevant community groups.

In conclusion, the proposed intervention will lead to a more secure environment, with sustainable solutions and lasting legacy to tackle SALW-related issues in the country.

Overview - Outcomes, Outputs and Activities

Outcome 1: Enhanced security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Western Balkans Region through comprehensive capacity-enhancement, cooperation and gender mainstreaming within relevant institutions involved in the SALW control field		
Result/Output 1.1: Enhanced operational capacities of law enforcement agencies to better fight illicit SALW trafficking through targeted assistance to 14 police agencies, BiH Customs and prosecutors' offices		
	Activity 1.1.1	Provision of specialized equipment for police agencies in line with the needs identified through the BiH SALW Coordination Board
	Activity 1.1.2	Support to ballistic laboratories in Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska and operational cooperation with ballistic laboratories from neighbouring countries
	Activity 1.1.3	Cross-border operational collaboration among the arson-explosion-accident (AEA) experts (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)
	Activity 1.1.4	Enhancing digital capacities and resources of the Law Enforcement Agencies
	Activity 1.1.5	Strengthening cooperation between Prosecutors and Law Enforcement Agencies through joint exercises
	Activity 1.1.6	Knowledge transfer and integration of knowledge products into relevant training and education institutions
	Activity 1.1.7	Support to the law enforcement agencies and prosecutor's offices in improving operational cooperation and quality of SALW related investigation through specialized trainings
Result/Output 1.2: Strengthened strategic exchange and cooperation between state level agencies, prosecutor's offices and relevant ministries to better fight illicit SALW trafficking		
	Activity 1.2.1	Enhancing cooperation and communication among national stakeholders to advance key strategic documents and policies.
	Activity 1.2.2	Strengthening the exchange and transfer of good practices in prosecuting illicit SALW trafficking
Result/Output 1.3 Raised awareness and community engagement through countrywide campaigns, outreach activities and advocacy addressing the negative impact and threats posed by illicit SALW to general public, including groups at risk (women, children, young men)		
	Activity 1.3.1	Supporting coordination body in charge of implementation of the Law on Gender Equality and SALW Control Strategy
	Activity 1.3.2	Joining Forces for a Safer Country: Strengthening the Role of Civil Society in Awareness Raising and Outreach Efforts
	Activity 1.3.3	Support to associations of women police officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina through cross-border cooperation (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)

4. Sustainability of Results

During the past several years, as part of UNDP efforts to support Bosnia and Herzegovina's National SALW Control Strategy and Roadmap, significant progress was witnessed on the part of the SALW Coordination Board. This progress can be seen in their coordination of national strategic documents, cooperation with international stakeholders, and overall oversight of SALW control projects implemented by UNDP, UNODC, OSCE, and others.

The national stakeholders have demonstrated their readiness to take the lead in implementing project activities, as evidenced by their expanded pool of national experts who deliver training for their colleagues, participate in the development of standard operating procedures, joint multi-agency exercises, and active involvement in the design of awareness-raising and outreach activities. Additionally, all project activities that involve meetings with neighboring countries at the operational and strategic levels have been effectively coordinated under the auspices of the BiH SALW Coordination Board.

While significant progress has been made in establishing a solid base for strengthening the sustainability of project results, based on lessons learned, additional efforts are required in three key areas to improve sustainability and relevance of investments.

The first area of intervention to strengthen the sustainability of project results is the mid-level (operational level) within law enforcement agencies. This level comprises experienced professionals who will be tasked with carrying forward the project's legacy for another 10-15 years. The issue of political interference in the operational work of police has long been recognized as a major challenge within Bosnia and Herzegovina's fragmented security system, which has resulted in reduced efficiency and effectiveness of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary. In addition, EU progress reports have highlighted the need for improved cooperation between police and prosecutors in investigative work. To address these challenges, the project will provide technical assistance and capacity building to the operational level of law enforcement agencies and enhance cooperation with relevant prosecutors' offices. This will involve addressing identified needs in key areas such as report writing, criminal intelligence gathering, investigative techniques, and evidence collection. By enhancing the skills of law enforcement agencies, the project will enable them to operate independently and effectively, thereby minimizing the impact of any improper political interference.

The second area of intervention shall be toward further institutional strengthening aiming to improve institutional capacity, including human resources management, financial management, and equipment procurement. This will help to ensure that law enforcement agencies are able to operate independently and sustainably after the Project ends. The train the trainer approach that the project will apply is aimed to build internal capacities that will serve as a resource on a long-term.

The third area of intervention is focused on building a broader set of stakeholders to sustain the knowledge and capacities achieved. The project will strive to foster establishing of strong collaboration and partnership between law enforcement agencies, civil society, and other stakeholders. By working together, these actors can build a common understanding of the importance of SALW control and develop a shared vision for the way forward. This can help to advance accountability and minimize political interference by creating a broad-based coalition of stakeholders that is committed to SALW control.

Additionally, the Project will continue to support the coordination role of the SALW Coordination Board as the key coordination body within the country on SALW matters, which also serves as a sustainability resource. It has been recognized that the Coordination Board is the only coordination mechanism in the country which continued to function in spite all political turmoil over the past two years. Also, lessons learned, and positive experiences of the Coordination Board could serve as a model for coordination and cooperation in other fields in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Finally, through the work with police academies and centers for education of judges and prosecutors, the Project will insure institutionalization of knowledge products and inclusion of SALW control topics in the curricula for basic and in-service training.

5. Risk Identification and Management

Based on lessons learned from previous projects and the current context in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the project team has identified several potential risks that could impact the implementation of the proposed intervention:

Political risk:

Political situation in the country began to deteriorate after the Office of the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina imposed amendments to the BiH Criminal Code in 2021 outlawing denial of war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, and glorification of war criminals. Political leadership of Republika Srpska responded by boycotting institutions at the national level throughout 2021 and 2022. Political instability continued before and after general elections held in October 2022 despite the fact that the Council of Ministers has been established swiftly after the elections, in January 2023. However, disagreements over state property and electoral reform continue to hinder reform agenda and any progress of Bosnia and Herzegovina on its EU path.

All of these circumstances may impact implementation of the project activities. The UNDP has successfully mitigated these risks in the past through continued communication with the relevant project partners. During implementation of the proposed intervention, the project will closely monitor these developments and continue to coordinate with the SALW Coordination Board and all relevant institutions adequate mitigation measures to ensure unimpeded implementation.

Media spins risk:

Despite UNDP's successful management of political risks related to institutional boycotts by political leaders, inflammatory political rhetoric, including hate speech and inter-ethnic grievances, has impacted some major project activities, primarily by requiring postponement of activities and causing delays in project implementation. This risk is exacerbated by the media environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which is conducive to inter-ethnic intolerance and can result in media outlets twisting or distorting information to fit their own agenda or narrative. This misrepresentation of project activities or goals could lead to negative perceptions among the general public, resulting in a lack of support for the project and even opposition to its goals.

To mitigate this risk, the project team will prioritize proactive and transparent communication with the media (as described in the section on Communications and Visibility). This includes regular press releases, interviews with representatives of national institutions, and outreach to journalists to ensure accurate and balanced reporting. The team will work with spokespersons of national institutions to issue corrections where appropriate or provide additional information to media outlets. Additionally, the team will engage with key stakeholders and partners, including civil society organizations and government agencies, to promote accurate messaging about the project.

The team will also monitor media coverage closely and work with national institutions to quickly address any issues that arise.

Organizational/Coordination risk

This is a potential challenge for the project, as it involves coordination among 12 primary partners and beneficiaries, and a large number of activities are planned for implementation. To mitigate this risk, the project team will establish clear communication channels and protocols for information sharing among the partners, and regularly monitor progress and potential issues in coordination. The project team will maintain close coordination with the SALW Coordination Board throughout the project implementation, to ensure alignment of activities and avoid duplication of efforts. The project team will also proactively engage with partners to identify any challenges or issues that may arise and develop solutions collaboratively to ensure effective implementation of activities and appropriate engagement of partners and beneficiaries in these. By strengthening coordination among partners, the project will promote better alignment of activities and ensure efficient and effective implementation of the project and ensure greater ownership and sustainability of results.

Social unrest risk

In addition to all political turbulences already described, Republika Srpska faces a significant debt payment of approximately USD 600,000.00 in 2023, which represents 20% of its planned budget for that year. Similar debt payments are expected in the years of project implementation and may significantly impact the financial solvency of the jurisdiction within the country. This could subsequently lead to social unrest and demonstrations in Republika Srpska, and potentially spill over to Federation BiH to a certain extent, as taxation is jurisdictional on a state level. Moreover, some ongoing political developments in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding changes to the Federation Constitution and Election Law imposed by the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina have already triggered small-scale demonstrations in Sarajevo. Should these issues continue to develop negatively in both entities, this may negatively affect the ability of the national stakeholders to actively participate in project implementation. To mitigate this risk, the project team will closely monitor the situation and propose adequate measures to ensure unimpeded project implementation, including potential adjustments to the project timeline or activities. The project team will also maintain open communication with all relevant institutions to address any potential concerns and facilitate a coordinated response.

6. Cross-cutting Issues

One of the key objectives of the project is to prevent illicit arms trade and reduce illegal SALW in Bosnia and Herzegovina which will contribute to a safer environment and equal development opportunities for all citizens in the country.

In terms of social and environmental standards, the project is focused on reducing the negative impact of illicit trade and SALW on the community, which directly contributes to a safer environment. The project will reduce the printing of materials to a minimum in order to ensure environmental-friendly approach. Digital sharing of all knowledge materials (brochures, SOPs, etc.) will be preferred instead. The project will also work with civil society organizations and government agencies to promote accurate messaging about the project and raise awareness about the harmful impact of SALW. This will make the topic available to a wider public and contribute to a safer environment in all groups of society.

The project integrates a human rights perspective by addressing the negative impact of illicit trade and SALW on human rights, particularly the right to life and security. Proposed intervention may play an essential role in reducing the availability and misuse of these weapons, which can have devastating impacts on human rights. To

ensure that the Project is effective in promoting respect for human rights, it will integrate a human rights perspective throughout the project cycle as follows:

- The Project will conduct a human rights impact assessment at the beginning of the Project implementation to assess the potential human rights impacts. This will help identify risks and opportunities to promote human rights while the Project will use, for the purpose of this assessment, the UNDP human rights due diligence policy which will provide the key guidance.
- The Project will conduct consultations with affected communities through organization of focus groups to ensure that the project activities are responsive to the needs and perspectives of affected communities.
- In terms of respect for the right to life and security, one of the guiding aims of the Project is to reduce the number of deaths and injuries caused by the misuse of SALW. Through support to civil society organizations, the Project directly contributes to this goal.

The project also takes a gender-responsive approach to SALW control by providing assistance and capacity development to existing associations of women police officers in the country and capacitating women police officer's networks in conducting and implementing training activities in the field of harmful impact of SALW to gender and related SALW violence resolution.

Furthermore, by working with the civil society organizations and supporting their work, the project will address some of the raising social phenomena such as femicide, suicides and violence among youth using both legal and illegal SALW.

The project will apply gender equality principles and ensure equal engagement of men and women in all areas of the project implementation. The project will also prioritize gender mainstreaming in SALW control by building on results and achievements of past and ongoing project interventions. The project will contribute to the advancement of gender equality by promoting gender-sensitive approaches to SALW control and raising awareness about the harmful impact of SALW on gender-based and domestic violence with fatal outcomes for women. The project may include UNDP gender expert on several activities as needed.

Based on the above, an appropriate gender marker score for this project could be 2, as it recognizes that advancing gender equality is a significant objective of the project, but not the principal reason for undertaking the project.

7. Communication and Visibility

In the past, UNDP implemented projects in support of implementation of the SALW Control Strategy and Roadmap relied mostly on communication on project activities through social media (Twitter), UNDP official website and occasionally official websites of the national partners. Visibility elements of the projects have mostly been used on materials limited to internal use within the projects. However, one of the lessons learned during the previous period has been the need to complement awareness raising activities through more robust communication of the project results/impacts, primarily through active involvement of the national institutions and making their efforts more visible to the general public. Additionally, recent unfortunate incidents in the region involving use of firearms have shown that more robust communication efforts contributing to informing and educating general public on the potential threats and negative impacts of both legal and illegal SALW on youth have imposed the need for continued and well-structured communication on the activities within the field.

To address these issues, UNDP will prioritize the development and implementation of a comprehensive project visibility plan. The plan will aim to communicate project activities and results to key stakeholders, as well as to the general public, in a clear and concise manner. The plan will be developed in close collaboration with the BiH SALW Coordination Board and other relevant authorities.

Key visibility and communications materials will include press releases, social media posts, project brochures, fact sheets, infographics, and videos. These materials will be designed to effectively communicate the project's key messages to different audiences, including government officials, civil society organizations, youth, and the general public. The project will also prepare regular updates for the official websites (UNDP, Ministry of Security, participating law enforcement agencies, etc.) to provide up-to-date information on project activities and results.

The key audiences for the visibility plan will include government officials, law enforcement agencies, civil society organizations, youth, and the general public. The plan will aim to communicate the importance of SALW control and the project's contribution to reducing the negative impacts of SALW in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region. The key messages will emphasize the need for cooperation and coordination among all stakeholders to ensure the success of the project.

Expected deliverables throughout project implementation will include regular press releases, social media posts, project brochures, fact sheets, infographics, and videos. Communication and visibility will further improve through specific project activities dealing with public awareness campaigns and outreach activities.

Therefore, UNDP will work from the onset of the proposed intervention with the BiH SALW Coordination Board, all national stakeholders individually and collectively and with the civil society organizations to develop communications plan aiming to enhance the visibility of project interventions, achievements, and impact while ensuring the accurate representation of the national stakeholders and UNDP.

The Project will propose the following key visibility and communications materials:

- Official websites with project information, updates, and success stories
- Project brochures, fact sheets, and other print materials
- Social media content, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram posts
- Press releases and media outreach
- Infographics and other visual aids to present project results and data
- Audiovisual materials, including video documentaries and interviews

The Project will propose the following key audiences:

- BiH SALW Coordination Board and relevant national stakeholders including law enforcement agencies and officers
- Civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations
- General public, including communities/groups at risk affected by SALW, including through engagement with schools and academia

The Project will propose communication on the following key messages:

- Highlight the importance of SALW control for the safety and security of individuals and communities
- Emphasize the project's contribution to strengthening the capacities of law enforcement agencies and enhancing their ability to combat the illegal possession, misuse, and trafficking of SALW
- Promote gender-responsive approaches in SALW control and the role of women in the security sector, using UNDP resources on communication for that purpose²⁰
- Showcase the impact of the project on the ground through success stories and data-driven evidence, including the added value of cross-border and regional collaboration
- Promote respect for and protection of human rights

The Project intends to have concrete deliverables during project implementation including regular updates on the websites and social media platforms, media outreach and press releases for project events and milestones,

²⁰ <https://www.undp.org/eurasia/publications/10-principles-gender-responsive-communications>

infographics and visual aids to present project results and data, audiovisual materials, including video documentaries and interviews with project beneficiaries and partners. The cross-border collaboration will benefit from the coordinated communication between the two UNDP country offices of BiH and Serbia. The communication will use both English and BCMS languages.

8. Knowledge Management

Recognizing that the proposed intervention builds on past and ongoing interventions, UNDP aims to strengthen partnerships with relevant institutions and organizations to facilitate the exchange of knowledge and expertise. This will ensure that project interventions are evidence-based, informed by lessons learned, and built on best practices.

To achieve this, the project will establish a robust knowledge management system that captures and shares project-related information, including research findings, best practices, and lessons learned. This will include both new knowledge products developed within the proposed intervention, as well as the institutionalization of knowledge products from past and ongoing SALW control interventions.

The project will prioritize the inclusion of three police academies in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as centres for the education of judges and prosecutors in both entities. The project team will review all knowledge products developed in the area of SALW control and prepare appropriate packages to be shared with these training and education institutions. This will include assessments and analyses of the capacities of relevant institutions, standard operating procedures, and awareness-raising products that will be shared with these institutions. The project will work with the management of these institutions to adjust knowledge products as appropriate to include them in their curricula or develop separate training modules for the purpose of basic and in-service training.

In addition, the project will prioritize the dissemination of project-related information and knowledge to key stakeholders, fostering the full institutionalization of all knowledge products developed within the project. The project will support the organization of regular coordination meetings among stakeholders where SALW control and accompanying knowledge products will become a standard topic on the agenda. This includes regular coordination meetings of the ten cantonal police commissioners with the Director of the Federation Police Directorate and SALW Coordination Board Meetings. The project team will also foster the initiation of new coordination meetings among practitioners and training/education institutions.

As the proposed intervention includes inclusion of civil society organizations, the Project will ensure that knowledge products developed within these activities are properly communicated and shared with relevant government institutions including both dissemination of written materials and organization of dialogues between civil society organizations and relevant institutions.

The planned knowledge products to be developed in coordination with the partner agencies during the project's implementation are:

- User manuals for digital tools (software) to be developed and implemented in relevant law enforcement agencies in support of SALW-related databases;
- Training / educational packages containing summary of past analysis and assessments, standard operating procedures and training scenarios for the use of police academies and centres for training of judges and prosecutors;
- Overview of procured specialized equipment including generic technical specifications for the purpose of standardization of equipment and for the use of the Agency for Police Support within the Ministry of Security which has legal responsibility for standardization of equipment and procurement.

- Training videos capturing the key segments of the joint exercises and trainings;
- Awareness raising products for the use by relevant institutions in their future awareness raising activities including overview of lessons learned and good practices.

9. Project Management Structure

UNDP Country Office Bosnia and Herzegovina will assume full responsibility and accountability for the overall management of the Project, including monitoring and evaluation of interventions aimed to achieve the set output through planned activities and efficient and effective use of resources.

The Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) will be applied, premised on the fact that institutional and administrative capacities within national stakeholders (line-ministries, local governments) are still not fully sufficient to undertake core functions and activities, as well as having in mind its high potential for maximum cost-effectiveness and tailored flexible capacity development of institutional partners.

The Project institutional structure comprises the MPTF Steering Committee, Local Project Board in an advisory and management support role, the Project Assurance and the Project Team, interacting in a broader project context with partners and all interested stakeholders.

In addition to the MPTF Steering Committee, as an overarching governance and oversight mechanism of the MPTF, the Project will continue the practice established in past interventions by convening a **Local Project Board (LPB)** that will meet at least once per year and its scope of work will include programme oversight, as well as regular review of work plans, reports and procedures submitted by the Project team. More specifically, the LPB will review and adopt the annual work plans, as well as the progress/annual and final reports for the Project. It will also supervise progress of work, provide strategic guidance, as well as give final approval to milestone strategic and operational matters. The LPB ensures that the appropriate required resources are committed and arbitrates on any conflicts within the Project or negotiates a solution to any problems between the Project and external bodies. Given the sensitivity of the processes managed by the project the LPB will ensure that the decision-making processes are conducted in a timely manner. Furthermore, the LPB's purpose is to ensure ongoing information sharing with representatives of donor countries' embassies and key institutional partners in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The **Local Project Board** will consist of representatives from the diplomatic missions of donor countries in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the European Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the BIH SALW Coordination Board, two entity ministries of interior, Border Police, State Investigation and Protection Agency, and the Indirect Taxation Authority.

The **Project Manager (PM)** is responsible for the overall management of the project on behalf of UNDP, including the mobilization of all project inputs, supervision over project staff, responsible parties, consultants and sub-contractors. The project manager presents key deliverables and documents to the SALW Control MPTF Secretariat for review and approval or submission to the Steering Committee as appropriate, including progress reports, annual work plans, adjustments to tolerance levels and risk logs.

The **Project Assurance** role carries out objective and independent project oversight and monitoring functions, ensuring that appropriate project management milestones are managed and completed. Project Assurance is the responsibility of the UNDP Sector Associate. Sector Associate/Quality Assurance will be engaged on average 20% of the time throughout duration of the project.

Overall financial, administrative, and logistical support will be ensured via **Project Assistant**, including support to project activities and planning, project financial monitoring and management, while ensuring conformity with the necessary administrative, operational and corporate requirements.

Annex 1: Project Detailed Budget

Project Proposal Budget

Title of Project Proposal: Law Enforcement Agencies Development in Small Arms and Light Weapons Control (Project LEAD)

Implementing entity: UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina

Project implementation period: November 2023 - November 2025

		Activities	Sub Activities	Description of expense	Budget Category	Total		
Outcome 1: Enhanced security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Western Balkans Region through comprehensive capacity-enhancement, cooperation and gender mainstreaming within relevant institutions involved in the SALW control field	Output 1.1 - Enhanced operational capacities of law enforcement agencies to better fight illicit SALW trafficking through targeted assistance to 14 police agencies, BiH Customs and prosecutors' offices	Activity 1.1.1 - Provision of specialized equipment for police agencies in line with the needs identified through the BiH SALW Coordination Board		Procurement of specialized equipment for SALW detection and investigation, including contraband detectors, CSI kits, explosives and narcotics detectors, endoscopes, handheld metal detectors, binoculars, digital cameras, under vehicle inspection mirrors.	Contractual Services	58,331		
					Contractual Services	54,449		
					Contractual Services	177,776		
					Contractual Services	10,800		
			Total Activity 1.1.1					301,356
		Activity 1.1.2 - Support to ballistic laboratories in Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska and operational cooperation with ballistic laboratories from neighbouring countries	Sub-Activity 1.1.2.1 - Support to operational cooperation between ballistics laboratories from BiH and Serbia	Organization of Joint Cooperation meetings between ballistic laboratories from BiH's both entities - FBIH and RS - with the ballistic laboratory from Serbia aiming to share knowledge for developing forensic, best practices and information for ballistic examination. 2 meetings in BiH (two days meetings with 8 persons per workshop).	Travel	7,040		
			Sub-Activity 1.1.2.2 - Provision of specialized ballistic equipment for ballistic laboratories in BiH		Contractual Services	6,800		
			Total Activity 1.1.2					86,792
		Activity 1.1.3. - Cross-border operational collaboration among the arson-explosion-accident (AEA) experts (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)		Organization of two meetings for AEA experts from BiH (2 from FBIH and two from RS) and Serbia (totaling 8 experts per meeting) for peer-exchange among explosive investigation units. One meeting will be hosted by BiH team, and one by Serbia team (cca 8 persons per workshop, including 4 experts from each jurisdiction).		Travel	3,520	
			Total Activity 1.1.3					6,920
		Activity 1.1.4 - Enhancing digital capacities and resources of the Law Enforcement Agencies		Development and installation of digital databases that will include data on firearms owned by individuals and/or legal entities, firearm details and records of firearms. Unit rate/estimated costs is based on the previous procurement process on software/database solution development.		Contractual Services	217,100	

		Total Activity 1.1.4			217,100
		Activity 1.1.5 – Strengthening cooperation between Prosecutors and Law Enforcement Agencies through joint exercises	Organization of 8 joint exercises out of which 4 with representatives of the law enforcement agencies and customs from BiH, and additional 4 with law enforcement agencies and customs from BiH, Montenegro and Serbia. The activity will also cover cost of production of video during the joint exercise that will be used for further training purposes.	Travel	14,400
				Supplies, Comm., Materials	400
				General Operating and Other Direct Costs	4,400
				Contractual Services	11,000
				Contractual Services	96,000
		Total Activity 1.1.5			126,200
		Activity 1.1.6 – Knowledge transfer and integration of knowledge products into relevant training and education institutions	Engagement of national consultant (20 days), translation of training materials, 1 joint meeting with 3 police academies, 1 training for trainers, 2 meetings with universities from BiH, and 8 lectures for 4 universities from BiH.	Contractual Services	11,071
				Travel	15,470
				Contractual Services	20,021
		Total Activity 1.1.6			46,562
		Activity 1.1.7 – Support to the law enforcement agencies and prosecutor’s offices in improving operational cooperation and quality of SALW related investigation through specialized trainings	National consultant for developing training materials on writing criminal offense reports, 15 days x USD 250/per day, including travel costs (USD 2,000). Organization of 2 specialized training (two days) on investigative techniques, report writing, collection of evidence and overall cooperation during investigations between investigators and prosecutors, 40 participants.	Contractual Services	5,750
				Travel	2,000
				Contractual Services	9,000
		Total Activity 1.1.7			16,750
		Total Output 1.1			801,680
Output 1.2 - Strengthened strategic exchange and cooperation between state level agencies, prosecutor’s offices	Activity 1.2.1 - Enhancing cooperation and communication among national stakeholders to advance key strategic documents and policies	Three meetings for participants from the State Investigation and Protection Agency, Border Police, and Indirect Taxation Authority—the total number of participants is up to 60 persons (20 per meeting).	Travel	4,500	
			General Operating and Other Direct Costs	1,500	
			Contractual Services	40,755	
	Total Activity 1.2.1			46,755	
Activity 1.2.2 – Strengthening the exchange and transfer of good practices in prosecuting illicit SALW trafficking	Provision of organization of 3 meetings and relevant trainings (1 in Republika Srpska, 1 in Federation of BiH and 1 at the BiH level) for total of 45 participants (15 per one meeting).	Travel	4,590		
		Contractual Services	13,125		
Total Activity 1.2.2			17,715		
		Total Output 1.2			64,470
Output 1.3 - Raised awareness	Activity 1.3.1 - Supporting coordination body in charge of implementation of the Law on Gender Equality and SALW Control Strategy	National consultant on Gender equality within Law enforcement agencies, 20 days and a one-day training for up to 20 participants.	Contractual Services	8,213	

		Organization of 3 meetings for coordination body responsible for implementing the Law on Gender Equality.	Contractual Services	6,000
			Travel	2,547
	Total Activity 1.3.1			16,760
	Activity 1.3.2 – Joining Forces for a Safer Country: Strengthening the Role of Civil Society in Awareness Raising and Outreach Efforts	Small grants/RPA for implementation of mini-projects will support improvement of the environment for civil society in BiH in the area of SALW awareness, as recommended in the latest EU Country Report for Bosnia and Herzegovina.	Contractual Services	12,350
			Travel	8,500
			Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	200,000
	Total Activity 1.3.2			220,850
	Activity 1.3.3 – Support to associations of women police officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina through cross-border cooperation (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)	Up to four meetings between the associations from BiH and Serbia, of which two in BiH with up to 50 participants in total. One study trip for up to 7 members from each association from BiH will be organized to “sister” organization in one of the EU countries in 2025.	Travel	15,933
			Contractual Services	9,750
	Total Activity 1.3.3			25,683
	Total Output 1.3			263,293
	Total Outcome 1			1,129,442
Project Management	1.4.1. Project Manager (NPSA 9) 100%	Project Manager NPSA9 - UNDP BIH Salary Scale: Y1:100%, Y2: 100%, Y3: 100% 24 months in total	Contractual Services	74,400
	1.4.2. Project Assistant (NPSA 5) 100%	Project Assistant NPSA5 - UNDP BIH Salary Scale: Y1:100%, Y2: 100%, Y3: 100% 24 months in total	Contractual Services	50,400
	1.4.3. Sector Quality Assurance (20%)	Sector Leader and Programme Associate UN gross salary scale Fixed Term Appointment NOB and G6, prorated to reflect 20 % of engagement.	Staff and other personnel costs	50,876
	1.4.4. Rent and Utilities	Office rent cost as per official UNDP BIH price list for renting services.	General Operating and Other Direct Costs	33,600
	1.4.5. Miscellaneous expenses/Bank charges	Monthly costs for: postage: USD 10.00 (9 units, total USD 90.00); stationary and office supplies: USD 40.00 (9 units, total USD 360.00) - Bank charges USD 50.00 (9 units, USD 450.00), and other minor operating costs	General Operating and Other Direct Costs	3,360
	1.4.6. Operational support	Operational, programmatic and M&E support by UNDP CO in project implementation	Staff and other personnel costs	17,767
	Total PM:			
TOTAL costs of activities & PM				1,359,846
GMS 7%				95,189
TOTAL Budget (GMS included)				1,455,035

Annex 2: Project Budget by UNDG categories

Budget per UNDG categories	
Title of Project Proposal: Law Enforcement Agencies Development in Small Arms and Light Weapons Control (Project LEAD)	
Implementing entity: UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina	
Project implementation period: November 2023 - November 2025	
UNDG Budget Category	TOTAL
1. Staff and other personnel costs	68,644
2. Supplies, Commodities, Materials	400
3. Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture including Depreciation	-
4. Contractual Services	969,442
5. Travel	78,500
6. Transfers and Grants to Counterparts	200,000
7. General Operating and Other Direct Costs	42,860
Total Direct Costs	1,359,846
Indirect Support Costs (7%)	95,189
GRAND TOTAL	1,455,035

Annex 3: Project Results Framework

Objective ²¹ : Enhance the capacity and engagement of relevant national institutions and civil society in Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as strengthen inter-agency and cross-border collaboration to advance the implementation of the National SALW Control Strategy and the Roadmap.				
Result ²²	Indicators ²³	Baseline	Target	Means of verification (MoV)
Outcome 1: Enhanced security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Western Balkans Region through comprehensive capacity-enhancement, cooperation and gender mainstreaming within relevant institutions involved in the SALW control field.				
<i>Outcome 1 indicator: UNDP IRRFF 2022-2025: 2.3.1 Number of national institutions with strengthened public administration and core government functions for b) community security.</i>				
Result/Output 1.1: Enhanced operational capacities of law enforcement agencies to better fight illicit SALW trafficking through targeted assistance to 14 police agencies, BiH Customs and prosecutors' offices.				
Activity 1.1.1 - Provision of specialized equipment for police agencies in line with the needs identified through the BiH SALW Coordination Board	Level of capabilities of the public security system for border management and combatting illicit SALW trafficking, including digital capacities to ensure digital records of SALW and facilitate electronic exchange of information on SALW. (Measured along a four-point scale: 4. Fully; 3. Partially; 2. Inadequately)	Baseline 2022: 2	Target 2025: 3	Perception survey; BiH SALW CB annual reports Project partners/beneficiaries web sites Media reports and coverage
Activity 1.1.2 - Support to ballistic laboratories in Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska and operational cooperation with ballistic laboratories from neighbouring countries	Number of specialized detection, investigation and ballistic equipment procured and delivered for improved illicit SALW processing capacity of Law Enforcement Agencies	Baseline 2023: 403 pcs of detection equipment procured for LEA's during the period 2020-2023.	Target 2025: 435 pcs of detection, investigation and ballistic equipment procured for LEAs in total	Donation acts
Activity 1.1.3 - Cross-border operational collaboration among the arson-explosion-accident (AEA) experts (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)	Number of ballistic and arson-explosion-accident experts with enhanced capacities for ballistic examinations and arson-explosion-accident through cross-border cooperation and the exchange of best practices, gender disaggregated.	Baseline 2023:0	Target 2025: Up to 20 experts (3 women) through up to 6 meetings as a joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia	Attendance sheets Social media posts Websites of institutions Official reports
Activity 1.1.4 - Enhancing digital capacities and resources of the Law Enforcement Agencies	Number of officials from law enforcement agencies with increased capacities for better detection of illegal SALW	Baseline: 435 customs and police officials from law enforcement agencies	Target: 615 customs and police officials in total	Attendance sheets Social media posts Websites of institutions Official reports
	Number of knowledge products in the field of SALW stemming from Roadmap projects	Baseline 2023: 0 SALW related knowledge	Target 2025: One handbook/manual for	Records of police academies

²¹ As per the project proposal.

²² Please add or delete outcome or outputs, as per the project proposal.

²³ Please add or delete indicators. Limited number of key indicators is recommended per output.

Activity 1.1.5. – Strengthening cooperation between Prosecutors and Law Enforcement Agencies through joint exercises	available and institutionalized within police academies and faculties for security and criminal sciences.	products available as a part of regular curricula in educational institutions in the country	SALW investigations as a consolidated knowledge product [based on SOPs developed within the SALW Roadmap projects], institutionalized within relevant educational institutions	Official statements and reports
Activity 1.1.6. – Knowledge transfer and integration of knowledge products into relevant training and education institutions	Number of officials from the State Prosecutor’s Office and law enforcement agencies with increased knowledge and capacities of SALW-related investigative techniques, report writing and collection of evidence	Baseline 2023: 0 SALW-related training sessions organized covering investigative techniques, report writing and collection of evidence for officials from the State Prosecutor’s Office and law enforcement agencies	Target 2025: Up to 40 officials from the State Prosecutor’s Office and law enforcement agencies with increased knowledge and capacities of SALW-related investigative techniques, report writing and collection of evidence	Attendance sheets Participants’ feedback Social media posts Websites of institutions Official reports
Activity 1.1.7 – Support to the law enforcement agencies and prosecutor’s offices in improving operational cooperation and quality of SALW related investigation through specialized trainings				
Result/Output 1.2: Strengthened strategic exchange and cooperation between state level agencies, prosecutor’s offices and relevant ministries to better fight illicit SALW trafficking				
Activity 1.2.1 – Enhancing cooperation and communication among national stakeholders to advance key strategic documents and policies	Number of small arms and light weapons strategic events held jointly with law enforcement agencies, prosecutor offices and other relevant institutions to clarify legal and operational issues existing between the institutions and to harmonize their field operations for more efficient SALW trafficking control.	Baseline 2023: 2	Target 2025: 5 in total	Project progress reports Attendance sheets from the events Official websites of the stakeholders and social media posts Media reports
Activity 1.2.2 - Strengthening the exchange and transfer of good practices in prosecuting illicit SALW trafficking				
Output 1.3: Raised awareness and community engagement through countrywide campaigns, outreach activities and advocacy addressing the negative impact and threats posed by illicit SALW to general public, including groups at risk (women, children, young men)				

<p>Activity 1.3.1 - Supporting coordination body in charge of implementation of the Law on Gender Equality and SALW Control Strategy</p>	<p>Number of impact assessments on human rights from the perspective of SALW.</p>	<p>Baseline 2023: 0 - pertinent to SALW related issues non-existent.</p>	<p>Target 2025: 1 assessment developed with structured findings and recommendations.</p>	<p>Electronic copy of the human rights assessment Project progress reports</p>
<p>Activity 1.3.2 – Joining Forces for a Safer Country: Strengthening the Role of Civil Society in Awareness Raising and Outreach Efforts</p>	<p>Number of CSO’s, including those representing women and girls belonging to groups at risk, that have strengthened capacity to engage in addressing issues of illicit SALW possession and impact on vulnerable groups.</p>	<p>Baseline 2023: 2 civil society organizations (CSOs) engaged in activities pertinent to the issues of illicit SALW possession.</p>	<p>Target 2025: Up to 8 CSOs engaged to jointly tackle the issue of illegal SALW with relevant government institutions</p>	<p>Grants issued. CSO grant recipients’ list CSO applications Official websites and social media posts Media posts</p>
<p>Activity 1.3.3 – Support to associations of women police officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina through cross-border cooperation (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)</p>	<p>No. of gender-responsive conflict sensitive development institutions, policies, plans or cross-border initiatives in place, with UN support that, promote and protect gender equality and human rights to end all forms of violence, promote the rule of law and ensure equal access to justice for all (UNSDCF BiH 2023-2025; global indicator 16.3)</p>	<p>Baseline 2023: 0 - Limited functional mechanisms in place pertinent to gender equality and the empowerment of women in law enforcement.</p>	<p>Target 2025: 5 gender related events promoting gender equality and empowerment of women in law enforcement as a joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia</p>	<p>Attendance sheets Official websites and social media posts Media posts</p>

Annex 4: Project Risk Matrix

#	Description	Category	Impact & Likelihood	Risk Treatment/ Management measures	Risk Owner	Current status [November 2023]
	<i>Brief description of the risk, including potential future event and its cause</i>	<i>Social and Environmental, Financial, Operational, Organizational, Political, Regulatory, Strategic</i>	<i>Impact: effect on the project if the risk were to occur on a scale of 1 (low) to 5 (critical) Probability: estimate of the likelihood of the risk occurring on a scale of 1 (not likely) to 5 (expected)</i>	<i>What actions have been taken/will be taken to counter this risk. Indicate if the risk has been consulted with the SALW Commission and how the authorities will be engaged in the management and mitigation</i>	<i>The person or entity with the management measures and responsibility to manage the relevant changes in context risk.</i>	<i>Implementation status of risk their effectiveness and</i>
1	Political risk - Deteriorated political situation in the country affects the project's implementation and achievement of planned results.	Political	Deteriorated political situation in the country remains as one of the high-level risks to successful implementation of the project due to disagreements over crucial political issues I = 4 P = 4	The project team shall closely monitor the situation and initiate timely mitigation measures, as necessary, including through senior management involvement. The project will rely on excellent cooperation and coordination with relevant partnerships built through other projects both at strategic and operational level, including on the role of the SALW Coordination Board or Project Board members to support mitigation measures. Also, the project team shall work proactively in maintaining continued communication with all project partners to ensure unimpeded implementation. Joint action with other international actors will be planned and initiated so as to reduce potential tensions and mobilize necessary support.	UNDP BiH	Ongoing
2	Media spins risks - Hostile or intolerant Media environment twists or distorts information leading to misinterpretation of project activities or misperceptions among the general public and resulting in lack of support.	Social and Environmental	Media environment is conducive to inter-ethnic intolerance and can result in media outlets twisting or distorting information to fit their own agenda or narrative, which can lead to misinterpretation of project activities or misperceptions among the general public resulting in lack of support. I = 3	The project team will engage in proactive and transparent communication through regular press releases, interviews with representatives of national institutions, and outreach to journalists to ensure accurate and balanced reporting. Additionally, the team will engage with key stakeholders and partners, including civil society organizations and government agencies, to promote accurate messaging about the project with the media, including journalists, spokespersons of national institutions and stakeholders and partners to ensure accurate messaging about the project.		Ongoing

<p>3 Coordination risk – Challenging and complex institutional set-up slows down decision-making and delays project activities and results</p>	<p>Organizational</p>	<p>P = 2</p> <p>This is a potential challenge for the project, as it involves coordination among 12 primary partners and beneficiaries, and a large number of activities are planned for implementation</p> <p>I = 3 P = 3</p>	<p>The project team will establish clear communication channels and protocols for information sharing among the partners, and regularly monitor progress and potential issues in coordination. The project team will maintain close coordination with the SALW Coordination Board throughout the project implementation, to ensure alignment of activities and avoid duplication of efforts. The project team will also proactively engage with partners to identify any challenges or issues that may arise and develop solutions collaboratively to ensure effective implementation of activities. As necessary, activity timelines will be adjusted to accommodate change in priorities, while ensuring active and effective engagement of all relevant stakeholders throughout.</p>	<p>UNDP BiH</p>	<p>N/A. Pending the commencement of the Project.</p>
<p>4 Social unrest – Politically and economically charged environment cause social unrests that affect participation of project beneficiaries in activities, including efforts to promote gender equality in law enforcement</p>	<p>Social and Environmental</p>	<p>This risk may arise as a result of Republika Srpska external debt payment that needs to be settled starting in 2023 as a result of the Government issued bonds in the previous years as well as political instabilities in Federation of BiH as a consequence of amendments to Federation Constitution and the Election Law imposed by the High Representative</p> <p>I = 4 P = 3</p>	<p>The project team will closely monitor the situation and propose adequate measures to ensure unimpeded project implementation, including potential adjustments to the project timeline or activities while maintaining the set results focus. The project team will also maintain open communication with all relevant institutions to address any potential concerns and facilitate a coordinated response.</p>	<p>UNDP BiH</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Annex 5: Project Multi-Year Work Plan

Multi-year Work Plan

Title of project proposal: Law Enforcement Agencies Development in Small Arms and Light Weapons Control (Project LEAD)

Implementing entity: UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina

Project implementation period: November 2023 – November 2025

Activities	Sub-activities	2023		2024												2025											
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	
Output 1.1 – Enhanced operational capacities of law enforcement agencies to better fight illicit SALW trafficking through targeted assistance to 14 police agencies, BiH Customs and prosecutors' offices.																											
Activity 1.1.1 - Provision of specialized equipment for police agencies in line with the needs identified through the BiH SALW Coordination Board	Provision of specialized equipment for police agencies in line with the needs identified through the BiH SALW Coordination Board																										
Activity 1.1.2 - Support to ballistic laboratories in Federation of BiH and Republika Srpska and operational cooperation with ballistic laboratories from neighbouring countries	Sub-Activity 1.1.2.1 - Support to operational cooperation between ballistics laboratories from BiH and Serbia (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia) Sub-Activity 1.1.2.2 - Provision of specialized ballistic equipment for ballistic laboratories in Bosnia and Herzegovina																										
Activity 1.1.3 - Cross-border operational collaboration among the arson-explosion-accident (AEA) experts (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)																											
Activity 1.1.4 – Enhancing digital capacities and resources of the Law Enforcement Agencies																											
Activity 1.1.5 – Strengthening cooperation between Prosecutors and Law Enforcement Agencies through joint exercises																											
Activity 1.1.6 – Knowledge transfer and integration of knowledge products into relevant training and education institutions																											
Activity 1.1.7 – Support to the law enforcement agencies and prosecutor's offices in improving operational cooperation and quality of SALW related investigation through specialized trainings																											

Output 1.2 - Strengthened strategic exchange and cooperation between state level agencies, prosecutor's offices and relevant ministries to better fight illicit SALW trafficking			
Activity 1.2.1 - Enhancing cooperation and communication among national stakeholders to advance key strategic documents and policies			
Activity 1.2.2 - Strengthening the exchange and transfer of good practices in prosecuting illicit SALW trafficking			
Output 1.3 - Raised awareness and community engagement through countrywide campaigns, outreach activities and advocacy addressing the negative impact and threats posed by illicit SALW to general public, including groups at risk (women, children, young men)			
Activity 1.3.1 - Supporting coordination body in charge of implementation of the Law on Gender Equality and SALW Control Strategy			
Activity 1.3.2 - Joining Forces for a Safer Country: Strengthening the Role of Civil Society in Awareness Raising and Outreach Efforts			
Activity 1.3.3 - Support to associations of women police officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina through cross-border cooperation (joint activity with UNDP CO Serbia)			

- Meetings in Serbia among ballistic laboratories, organized by UNDP CO Serbia
- Meeting in Serbia among AEA experts, organized by UNDP CO Serbia
- International joint exercises with Serbia and Montenegro
- Meetings in Serbia among associations of women police officers, organized by UNDP CO Serbia